

Closed shop for 65,600 men in state shipyards

A closed shop agreement has been concluded by the newly nationalized shipbuilding industry, obliging 65,600 manual workers to belong to a union. The deal, which dates from August 1 last, excludes British Shipbuilders' white collar and supervisory staff.

White collar staff are excluded

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

The newly nationalized shipbuilding industry has concluded a closed shop agreement obliging 65,600 manual workers to belong to a TUC-affiliated union. It confirms the trend in the state sector of industry towards compulsory trade union membership.

The key paragraph in the agreement reached between the unions and British Shipbuilders reads: "In order that negotiations can be conducted on a fully representative and authoritative basis, it is accepted that all manual employees should be members of an appropriate signatory union."

The closed shop deal affects four fifths of the industry's 82,000 workers, but does not extend to white collar and supervisory staff. However, the agreement is likely to fuel the political controversy over the closed shop that now affects both main parties.

Copies of the agreement, which also covers grievance procedure and other issues, are being distributed to shop stewards in shipyards throughout the country. Shipbuilding is traditionally a stronghold of active trade unionism, and the new pact will secure that position.

It has been signed between British Shipbuilders' management and unions representing engineering workers, boiler-makers, building workers, electricians, sheet metal workers and unskilled labour.

As well as concluding the closed shop, the agreement makes a number of other changes, such as: "No shop steward shall be dismissed because of any action taken in good faith in the proper performance of his duties."

As in other state-run industries, British Shipbuilders are obliged by statute to recognize

Ministers full of optimism for the future

By Michael Hatfield
Political Reporter

Mr Callaghan and two of his Cabinet colleagues last night showed an optimism about Britain's economic prospects, and thus the Government's survival, that would not have been expected even a month ago.

After this week's Cabinet meeting and the favourable economic indicators of recent weeks, ministers clearly believe their policies are beginning to bear fruit even though massive unemployment remains and there are pressures to boost the economy.

"The message is getting through that we are on our way back," Mr Callaghan told a meeting in Bristol last night. "We can begin to look the world in the face with a sound currency, a strong balance of payments, a falling inflation rate and a people with determination to succeed."

The Prime Minister said that when Labour came to office in 1974 "we said that it would take several years to repair the damage to the British economy. Now we can build on our successes."

Mr Callaghan, who earlier in the day had spent an hour at Downing Street with Mr Steel, leader of the Liberal Party, reviewing the Government's arrangement with Liberal MPs, told the Bristol meeting it would be wrong to be unduly distracted, even by the steady flow of good news.

"We are on our feet and we have dusted ourselves down. Now we need to look ahead, not for one or two good months but to a whole five-year perspective in which we will restore Britain's industrial strength and competitiveness."

The good news was that raw materials and fuels used by industry had been getting cheaper; in August the rise in wholesale prices was the lowest in 18 months; there was a record trade surplus in the latest balance of payments figures; there was a further drop yesterday in the minimum lending rate to 6 per cent; and the latest retail price index showed a drop.

"Things are beginning to go right for Britain," he said. "But there is still much to be done. We need more productivity in industry, we need more industrial growth, we need more employment and job-creating investment."

Mr Callaghan added that all these problems and many of the others, both social and economic, which had beset Britain since the war became far more manageable against a sound financial background. "No one works their best in an atmosphere of defeat and decline."

The Prime Minister concluded: "It would be a poor continuation on page 2, col 7

Senator accused of new 'McCarthyism'

From Frank Vogel
Washington, Sept 16

Senator Thomas Eagleton alleged today that a new kind of "McCarthyism" is making a victim of Mr Bert Lance, Director of the Office of Management and Budget. He told the Senate committee on governmental affairs, before assembled reporters and television cameras, that Senator Charles Percy had been waging a campaign that had "irrevocably damaged" Mr Lance.

Mr Lance, who is giving evidence on certain of his special transactions, asserted flatly that he intended to remain in the Government. He said he believed he would gravely weaken the American political system if he resigned after it had become clear to all that he was an innocent man.

The session today, however, appeared to concern the competence and integrity of the senators themselves more than of Mr Lance. Senator Eagleton's charges startled his colleagues.

He said that just as Senator Joseph McCarthy "made guilt by association a fine art in the 1950s" so now Senator Percy was developing the art of "guilt by accumulation," piling one charge upon another, irrespective of whether the charges were completely groundless.

Senator Eagleton declared that, at a closed session of the committee last week, an attempt was made by Senator Percy to delay Mr Lance's appearance before the committee. He said Senator Percy wanted to give some 20 witnesses a chance to make still more allegations against Mr Lance so that "muddy the waters all the more."

Senator Eagleton said that, because of Senator Percy's allegations, "I once believed Mr Lance was a swindler and then that he had cheated on his taxes."

The best Senator Percy could do when he discovered how groundless were these charges, he said, was to offer a weak apology about the anguish he might have caused Mr Lance last weekend. The allegations made by Senator Percy, however, would stick in the minds of thousands of people for as long as Mr Lance lived.

Senator Percy made only a short and quiet statement. He said he knew he ran the risk of having his motives and his integrity questioned when conducting an investigation of this kind. He deeply regretted that Senator Eagleton held the opinions he announced.

He believed, he said, that the American people and Mr Lance would accept the fact, when the investigation was concluded, that his motives had always been the best.

Mr Lance yesterday accused some of the committee of finding him guilty before he had been given a chance to speak. He said he had provided full details of his past career to members of the committee's staff before his first confirmation hearing in January.

Mr Lance's tactics appear to be paying off, as the committee now seems to be on the defensive and confused.

Senator Jacob Javits and Senator Eagleton both questioned Mr Lance closely about the extent of the information he provided to the committee in January. If Mr Lance's replies prove to be accurate, it would appear the committee staff knew all about the various government investigations into Mr Lance's banking activities between 1972 and 1976, all about the extent of Mr Lance's overdrafts, indeed, all about almost every single matter that now is being studied by the committee.

There have been press reports and suggestions by notable commentators that Mr Lance, even if found innocent, can no longer remain in office because the investigation has damaged his reputation and his relations.

Continued on page 5, col 5

King David Hotel blast explained by Irgun chief

From Our Correspondent
Tel Aviv, Sept 16

The terrorist who in 1946 blew up the King David Hotel, then the hub of the British administration in Palestine, claimed this weekend that the object had been to destroy files which proved recognized leaders of the Jewish community had been involved in underground activities.

The notorious operation, in which 91 people died and 205 were injured, was one of 400 planned and led by Mr Gideon Pagan, aged 54, the highly respected chief of staff of the Irgun Zvai Leumi. This week he left his own manufacturing business to become Mr Begin's adviser for combating Arab terror.

Interviewed in Yediot Aharanot, Mr Pagan said that the King David attack was carried out during a rare period of "operational cooperation" between the Hagannah, which was the illegal military arm of the official Jewish leadership, and the Irgun, the terrorist organization.

At other times the Hagannah cooperated with the British police against the Irgun.

The south-west wing of the King David Hotel housed the secretariat of the British Government in Palestine. The Hagannah wanted to blow up after the British had arrested members of the Jewish Agency executive, the shadow Cabinet of the embryo state, and seized documents that could have landed the detainees in British military courts on charges punishable by hanging.

Mr Pagan said high casualties in the King David blast could have been avoided if the Hagannah had heeded the warning of the underground's warning to evacuate the building.

In his newspaper interview today, Mr Pagan said one of his recommendations to convince Arabs that terrorism does not pay is to keep a number of imprisoned terrorists constantly under sentence of death.

He indicated that this would give the Israelis a counter-weapon if the Arabs again abduct Israelis and try to barter them for imprisoned guerrillas.



American cheerleaders: Ryder Cup team wives and colleagues support Nicklaus and Floyd, the only pair to lose. Report, page 23.

Maria Callas dies of heart attack

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Sept 16

Maria Callas, often described as the greatest prima donna of the century, died this afternoon at her home in Paris of a heart attack. She was 53.

Michael Glutz, her artistic director, said as he left her apartment: "It was about half past one when she was taken ill, just as she was leaving her bedroom to go into her bathroom. She fell on the floor but had time to call for help."

"When he confidante arrived it was already too late, she was unconscious. She laid her head back. When the doctors arrived they could only confirm that she was dead."

M Glutz added that Mme Callas had not been ill lately but had some trouble with low blood pressure. He said that she had plans for some television broadcasts and recordings.

Her last stage appearance was in 1973. She made several recordings of duets from Puccini's operas with Giuseppe Di Stefano, the Italian tenor, and gave several recitals in European capitals, ending with a triumphant appearance at the Theatre des Champs Elysees in Paris.

"Maria Callas was one of the shining lights of our time. She carried the art of singing to heights where she reigns forever," Dr Rolf Liebermann, the director of the Paris Opera, declared this evening. "Godesses do not die."

News by television: The opera star's mother, Mrs Litsa Calogeropoulos, learnt of her daughter's death as she watched television in Athens. She said that she saw a picture of her daughter on the screen and thought she was about to hear some good news.

She did not know whether the singer's body would be buried in Greece or France—Agence France-Presse.

Covent Garden response: In London, Mr John Tooley, general administrator of the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, said: "She had become a legendary figure and possessed all the qualities which the public would associate with a great diva."

"The impact which she made on opera is inestimable, because she understood in the most profound way the relationship between music and drama and found the latter entirely through music."

"She had a very special relationship with Covent Garden and gave many memorable performances here during the fifties and early sixties, particularly in Tosca, Norma and Medea."

Obituary, page 16

No agreement on peace formula in bread strike

England and Wales will still be short of bread this weekend as the two sides involved in the bakers' dispute to agree on a peace formula.

Dr Norman Ross, the mediator, will spend the weekend studying evidence submitted by both sides.

The bakers' union executive had recommended a return to work at factories not covered by the federation national working agreement.

Bakery closes, page 2

Jaguar men demand shop stewards' resignation

Six hundred Jaguar workers in Coventry are demanding the resignation of the 100 shop stewards at the company's engine plant. A group of eight shift workers at the plant, dissatisfied with the stewards' handling of a recent strike over pay, have organized a petition carrying 600 names and factory check numbers.

They say they want acceptance of Leyland Cars' 5 per cent pay offer, but the stewards have said they intend to press for their original claim of £20 a week. A recent strike on that claim was called off after two weeks when half of the factory's two thousand workers went back to their jobs.

Mr William Schofield, the chairman of the joint shop stewards' committee, said the petition did not represent the majority view at the plant. He thought about half the workers wanted to pursue the £20 claim.

He said stewards were elected section by section and only three or four had lost their positions in recent voting.

Rover strike threat, page 17

Silver Jubilee Appeal fund reaches £11m

By Penny Symon

The Queen's Silver Jubilee Appeal, which was launched by the Prince of Wales in April, has so far raised about £11m, it was announced yesterday.

Of that sum, about £5m has been received, the rest is pledged in donations over the next nine years. The £11m includes donations sent direct to the Prince of Wales, totalling £300,000, and a further £300,000 raised by the Royal British Legion and Earl Haig Fund collections.

When he launched the appeal, the Prince said that it was the nation's way of expressing its gratitude to his mother for 25 years of service.

Half the money raised by local supporting appeals would be returned to the counties where it was raised, to be spent on projects with the theme of encouraging service to the community by young people. The rest would go into a capital fund, the income from which would be used to support similar enterprises throughout the appeal locally, and the £11m also includes £2.4m that they have so far raised. About 180 grants have been made for projects in the counties, totalling £204,000.

Japan decides not to buy Concorde

From Peter Hazelhurst
Tokyo, Sept 16

Japan Airlines will not take up its options to buy the Concorde next year when Tokyo's new international airport near Narita City is expected to open, an airline spokesman announced today.

He said that even though the airport is 40 miles away from the congested suburbs of Tokyo, Japan Airlines will not purchase Concorde aircraft in "the foreseeable future."

"At present, we feel the performance offered does not justify the cost on payload and range, although the manufacturers have made great efforts to meet these requirements," he explained.

Referring to noise levels at the airport, the spokesman said: "In view of Concorde's noisy reputation, there is a very strong possibility there would be a campaign to exclude the aircraft from Japanese airports."

British Airways and Air France have not made a formal request for Concorde landing rights at Japan's new international airport yet because the two airlines are still attempting to obtain rights to fly over the Soviet Union.

But there can be little doubt that they will run into stiff opposition when they do. Protesting farmers and radical students have delayed the opening of the Narita airport for the past five years and residents are now threatening to intensify their campaign against the noise level of conventional jets.

An organization which disrupted the flight programme at Osaka airport is now coaching residents round Narita on ways of dealing with airlines.

Flight in Concorde: The Queen will make her first flight in Concorde on November 2 when she returns from the West Indies after her silver jubilee visit to Canada and the Caribbean, Buckingham Palace announced yesterday.

Almost every member of the Royal Family has flown in Concorde, but the Queen's flight was delayed until the aircraft had proved itself in service. Barre plea, page 5

Lending rate cut for 16th time this year

Minimum lending rate was yesterday cut for the 16th time this year, by half a point to 5.75 per cent. At the same time the Retail Price Index in the month to mid-August rose only 0.5 per cent meaning an inflation rate over the past six months of 14.8 per cent. And it now seems the building societies will cut mortgage interest rates, probably by three-quarters of a point.

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Restore defence cuts, Nato demands

A sharply worded demand that cuts in defence spending should be restored as Britain's economy improves has been made in a letter to the Government from the Secretary General of Nato. The Ministry of Defence has replied that even after the cuts planned for next year, Britain will still be spending 5 per cent of national income on defence.

Page 4

Rift stays in French left

M Robert Fabre, the French Radical Socialist leader, who led his party out of the Union of the Left, has obtained unanimous support from his national executive. In a television debate with M. Georges Marchais, the Communist leader, his attitude was unyielding.

Page 4

Schmidt Poland visit is deferred

Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, has postponed a visit to Poland because of negotiations with Herr Hans-Joachim Lauth, Minister without Portfolio, has been to Algeria, arousing speculation that jailed terrorists may be flown there.

Page 4

Cheerful Britain

The British are less discontented and more cheerful and tolerant than most commentators claim, John Young writes in the final article in his Journey through Britain series. He records his impression that Britons work harder than is generally supposed. But they distrust politicians.

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Transport union leader demands clear statement from Tories on industrial relations policies

Mr Jack Jee yesterday issued a political challenge to the Conservatives to clarify their policies on trade unionism and spoke of a possible return to "the days of 1972-74".

The general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, said: "We are now in the situation where collective bargaining is being resumed. But the atmosphere is not good. The Government and responsible bargaining is being sowred by the actions and words of a small number." Machinery for arbitration and conciliation, codes of practice and recent labour legislation enacted by the Government had laid the basis for a new era of constructive and socially responsible bargaining. However, the Grunwick dispute and other less well publicized disputes and shown that those foundations were still shaky.

"We must respect for and adherence to good industrial relations practice, we could be back to the days of 1972-74", he told a press conference at the Shell UK plant at Stanlow, Cheshire.

"Objections to the Grunwick dispute" had "profoundly disturbed" many trade unionists

the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas), they had remained "strangely mute" in failing to urge Grunwick to accept Acas recommendations and the report of the Scarman inquiry.

"The attitude or 'attitudes' of the official opposition party, the Conservatives, is particularly bewildering. On the one hand, Sir Keith Joseph, the Minister of the Department of Employment, says he supports Acas and has made known his opinion that legislation to prevent closed shop agreements between employers and trade unions would be impractical," was shown in 1974," Mr Jones said.

"On the other hand there is Sir Keith Joseph, who is almost an alternative employment spokesman, who has made known he does not support Acas, rejects the Scarman inquiry report and is an ardent supporter of union rights to organize and negotiate."

Mr Jones continued: "The Conservative Party, as a whole, must make known their position on industrial relations. They and the CBI have to answer three fundamental questions.

"First, do they support

Twenty people who live near the British nuclear waste plant at Windscale, Cumbria, will receive free fish for the next month, and possibly longer, in return for help in tests to ascertain how much of the radioactive isotope caesium 137 is absorbed by fish-eating programmes. The radioactive isotope is discharged from Windscale into the Irish Sea and is absorbed by fish.

Tests will start this weekend before the volunteers begin a four-week fish-eating programme. Two further tests will be conducted in the autumn of it. Four weeks is considered a relatively short period. If results are insufficiently precise the programme will be continued for a further three to six months.

The experiment should enable an estimate to be made of what percentage of the dose limit laid down by the International Commission for Radiological Protection would be reached if the volunteers continued eating the fish indefinitely.

All the fish used will be caught locally, and their caesium content will be determined by sampling at Windscale and Birmingham University.

Concern has been expressed at the Windscale inquiry about discharges of caesium and its effects. Caesium has a half-life of 30 years, and 500,000 curies was discharged from Windscale between 1972 and 1976. In that period annual discharges rose from 25,000 to 136,000 curies, largely because of corrosion in Magnox ponds at the plant.

Mr Joseph Thompson, of the Network of Nuclear Concern, a group that objects to BNF's proposals for oxide reprocessing at Windscale, told the inquiry: "The accumulative dose commitment to fish-eaters from the caesium releases to date will kill at least thirty people and possibly many more".

Observing that BNF have claimed to lead the world in reprocessing technology, Mr Thompson said that it had been advanced as a reason for going ahead with oxide reprocessing.

8—
Graham Barton, aged 34, a former British Leyland executive, was sent for trial on bail from Wells Street Magistrates' Court, London, yesterday charged with forging a letter purporting to be from the late Sir John Eaton Hastings, former chairman of the National Enterprise Board.

He had been charged jointly with his wife Fatima, aged 32, but the magistrate, aged 32, said the case was too good for her to answer. The couple were both committed on bail on a charge of uttering the letter on or about April 30.

John W. G. of Lincoln's Gardens, Hounslow, Middlesex, was also committed on a charge of forging a letter purporting to be from the Bank of England to British Leyland on January 12, and of forging a letter with intent to defraud.

Security should be tightened at the special unit in Barlinnie prison, Glasgow, where some of Scotland's most difficult prisoners are held, Mr Edward Taylor, MP, opposition front-bench spokesman on Scottish affairs, said yesterday.

He has written to Mr Millan, Secretary of State for Scotland, asking for an investigation into alleged allegations that prisoners were drinking openly.

Mr Taylor said the allegations were "alarming and horrifying", particularly because they came so soon after the discovery of a book in which the manuscript of a special unit inmate, was taken from the prison, and because of the circumstances surrounding the death of another prisoner, Larry Winters.

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By Tim Jones
Labour Reporter

The Transport and General Workers' Union yesterday decided to claim pay rises of up to 30 per cent for its members in the National Health Service, the water industry and in local authorities. Its aim is a minimum wage of £50 a week for members who at present earn about £38.

The nine-point claim shows that Britain's largest union intends to take full advantage of

reentry into free collective bargaining, unexpressed by the Chancellor, desire to restrict pay rises to single figures in the next round.

Public sector workers are subject to the influences of government cash limits and their claim will be a direct challenge to Mr. Healey's comprehensive policy.

Mr. Michael Martin, national secretary of the public services group of the union, said yesterday: "The Government must recognize the social justice of this claim. We feel it would be wrong to let the public sector lose 10 per cent wages policy throughout the public sector, irrespective of the group of workers involved."

"Their aim and ours must

The Police Federation yesterday repeated its call for a ban on all marches and demonstrations which pose a threat to public order, and in particular the National Front march planned to take place in Hyde, Manchester, next month.

Mr James Jardine, chairman of the federation, said the safety of the public should be the primary consideration in deciding whether a march should take place. He added: "If the streets are becoming a trial of brute strength between left and right-wing extremists, who think they have the right to turn our streets into a battleground. The public is sick of it and the police are sick of

the year of service, increased sick pay, increased protection clause and average earnings on sick pay.

Mr Martin said: "Our aim must be to give these workers a just wage. A sum of £50 is not exorbitant in anyone's book and I am sure that the public will support us, and will be pressing the Government to give special consideration to these workers."

Marc Bolan killed

Marc Bolan, the pop singer, was killed in a road crash in London yesterday. Bolan, who was aged 29, was a passenger in a car which crashed into a tree in Barnes, London.

Obituary news 16

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By Christopher Warman

The Greater London Council has decided to ask for more help from the Government to assist the recovery of the inner areas of the capital.

Mr Mervyn Scorgie, chairman of the new industry and employment committee, set up by the Conservatives after they won control of the council last May, said yesterday: "The GLC wants to encourage industry back to London by providing the right environment for the private investor. We are making every effort to improve conditions, but we cannot do it single-handed."

Reports to the committee emphasize inner London's need for assistance from the Government

Lorraine Burt, aged 17, was charged yesterday with abducting a baby, Rebecca Wyeth, in Lee Green, south-east London, on Thursday. Miss Burt, unemployed, of Thames Street, Greenwich, is to appear before magistrates at Greenwich today.

A cake factory employing 300 people is to close permanently because of the bakery workers' strike, it was announced yesterday. Dr John Randall, managing director of the Avana Group, said: "It has to be a financial decision because of the severe loss this week on top of summer losses." I can not afford to have a subsidiary company initiating group progress."

Workers at the Avana bakery in Rongerstone, Gwent, who have been on strike for three days, in sympathy with the bread workers' national stoppage, received letters of notice yesterday and the bakery prepared to shut down after 24 years in business.

On Wednesday, voted to continue supporting the strike which is only terms for Bakers' holiday meeting.

Dr Randall said: "Ironically we honour the very terms they are fighting for, but sympathy masochistically damaging your business is not going to help these people. It is very difficult for us to understand their action."

He emphasized that the cake-bakery had suffered heavy summer losses, and Bakers' Union representatives knew the situation better before supporting the strike.

"The situation was spelt out to them," he said. "They were given updated accounts as regularly as Wednesday but they were serious, apparently was not realized. It is no good saying it has only been a three-day

A mass meeting at the bakery strike. The damage to the bus

Mr Gordon Rhodes, an assistant bank manager, who let the police know that a man was holding his family hostage at gunpoint, was praised for his courage by Mr Justice Wien at Winchester Crown Court yesterday.

As the result of his call Peter James Sturley, aged 32, of Park Lane, Bedfordhampton, Hampshire, was arrested by Police Constables Donald Andrew and Jeffrey Male after taking £6,000 from Mr Rhodes's home on Hayling Island.

Yesterday Mr Sturley, a married man with two young children, was jailed. He pleaded guilty to seven charges, two of false imprisonment, two of mail, robbery, burglary, and two concerning firearms. His sentence, totalling 35 years, will run concurrently and he will serve a total of eight years in jail.

Continued from page 1 necessary policies begun

heart" who could not give as least two cheers for the news that we have had this week. Let us all be determined to stick to the path that is bringing us success.

Two of his Cabinet cheer leaders who spoke last night were Mr. Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, and D. Owen, Foreign Secretary.

With the retail price index showing a fall of 1.1 per cent in the rate of increase, Mr. Hattersley told a gathering in London that the figures confirmed "beyond doubt that the battle against inflation is being won."

He told the meeting: "The Government promised that if inflation kept its nerve and continued with the hard but

December," the annual retail price index would fall to 12.0 per cent by the end of the year. That promise will be kept.

Mr. Hattersley said he also certain the steady improvement in the inflation rate will continue into the spring months. He said: "So, the figure inflation is within grasp."

Dr. Owen, addressing Pontypridd Labour Party, said that the figures would give the foreign investors the recent Ford announcement of a new plant for Swansea as a dramatic example.

"Let us beat the drum of Britain a little more and show that the effects of devaluation at home and abroad," he said.

Three London colleges launched a £3,000 advertising campaign yesterday in an attempt to find accommodation for their new students.

Several thousand homes are required by students at the Polytechnic of North London, the Polytechnic of Central London and the Polytechnic of the South Bank, which have combined funds to place advertisements in local and national newspapers for two weeks.

"We felt this was a necessary last resort because the housing crisis for students is becoming so serious", Mrs Shirley Meredean, accommodation officer at the Polytechnic of North London, said. We have to recommend students to stay with friends or relatives as an interim measure, and in some cases they have to delay their entry to the college, or are lost to it altogether."

Two houses were raided Working and in Paddington. night a man was being interviewed at Kingston station.

About 1lb of heroin seized Det Supt Fred Luff, of Scotland Yard's squad, said: "This is a significant seizure. We are convinced we have broken in a major drug distribution. Inquiries are going on to other people who may be connected."

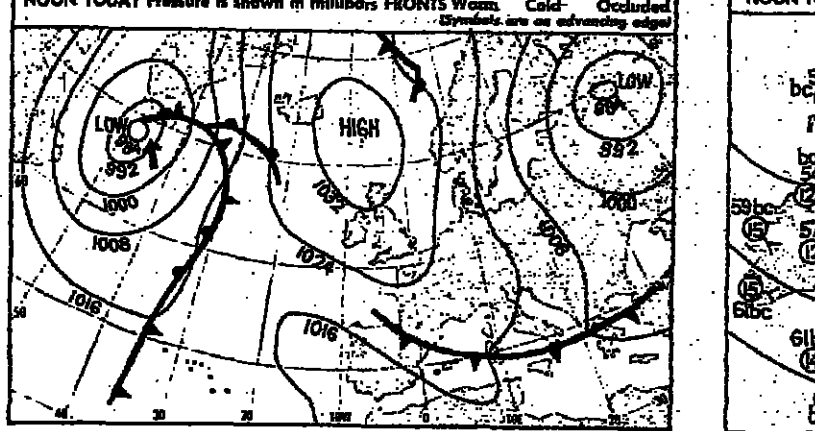
Bail for men in Mary Bell case

Two men accused of harboring Mary Bell, who absconded from an open prison, were released on bail of £100 a head on October 14 by Derby Magistrate yesterday. They are George Shirlcliffe, aged 29, of 10, St. Street, Alton, and Robert Hibbert, aged 32, of St. George's Road, both Derby.

They were both charged between September 10 and they knowingly harboured Mary Flora Bell, a person who escaped from prison.

Sir Max Mallowan, aged 73, the archaeologist and husband of the late Dame Agatha Christie, has married Miss Barbara Parker, also an archaeologist, of Scarsdale Villas, Kensington, London, it was disclosed yesterday.

NOON TODAY Features:



From Our Correspondent

When a container van from Northern Ireland was stopped on the M6 after a tip-off, Lancashire police found a cache of detonators, arms and ammunition, magistrates at Chorley said yesterday.

William James Rice, aged 36 of Pembury Road, Lower Clitheroe, was charged with being in custody for seven days. Reporting restrictions were lifted after application by Mr Michael Dalling, his counsel.

Mr Dalling said: "The assumption is that the defendant is in cases like this the defendant is a member of a terrorist organization. The client is not a member of a such organization."

The defendant, who had been held under the Prevention of Terrorism Act, was accused of possessing 30 explosive substances on September 10, 263 sticks of gelignite, seven electric detonators and 275lb of sodium chlorate. He is further accused of being in possession of arms, a revolver and a rifle without a firearms certificate and of 133 rounds of ammunition.

People forecasting a record harvest this year were criticized yesterday by Sir Henry Plun, president of the National Farmers Union.

He said at King's Lynn, Norfolk, "Reports from farmers throughout the country point to a much lower yield than the forecast by over-enthusiastic pundits. The quality of grain produced has undoubtedly been badly affected by the winter."

If you have at any time bought a Weir instrumentation power converter (model HF - 100N) sold for use with any National Panasonic portable colour television to be used with a car battery, please contact your nearest National Panasonic dealer as soon as possible - **and on no account use the converter in the meantime with any television or in any other way.**

Modifications carried out by or on behalf of National Panasonic to some of the converters prior to sale may have resulted in them becoming defective and therefore electrically dangerous in certain circumstances. These units need to be checked.

National Panasonic (UK) Ltd., 308-318 Bath Rd., Slough Berks Tel: Slough 34522-3188 Service Dept.

Italian wine.
You are my sunshine...

Italian wine...
my only sunshine...

Italian wine...
you make me happy...

Italian wine...
when skies are grey.

A row of four spark plugs, each with the word 'ITALIAN' embossed on its side. The spark plugs are angled slightly upwards and to the right, creating a sense of depth and repetition. The background is a solid, light color, making the dark, metallic spark plugs stand out.

Monday says: "We have the weather forecast for tomorrow: 6-10; Tuesday: 6-10; Wednesday: 6-10; Thursday: 6-10; Friday: 6-10; Saturday: 6-10; Sunday: 6-10. Periodic rain with sunny intervals."

Yesterday
 London: Temp. max. 7 and min. 4. Wind: 11 to 21 m.p.h. to 7 a.m., 11° C (52° F). Humidity: 7 p.m. 65 per cent. Rain: 24th 4.7 in. 25th 4.7 in. 26th 4.7 in. 27th 4.7 in. 28th 4.7 in. 29th 4.7 in. 30th 4.7 in. 31st 4.7 in. 1,026 million barrels, steady. 1,026 million barrels = 29.53 in.

At the resorts
 24 hours to 5 p.m., September

	Sun Rain	Sun Temp	Sun Wind	Sun Cloud
S COAST				
San Francisco	1.9	11	13	50
San Jose	1.9	11	13	50
San Diego	1.9	11	13	50
San Bernardino	1.9	11	13	50
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San Jose	1.9	11	13	50
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HOME NEWS

Goodman plea for closed shop opposition

The British are less discontented, and more cheerful and tolerant, than most commentators proclaim. They work harder than is generally supposed, and for the most part enjoy their work. They distrust politicians and are sceptical of what they read in newspapers or see on television.

These are the perhaps facile impressions—it would be wrong to call them conclusions—gained from six weeks of travelling around the country. During that time I spoke to probably about 500 people, of whom some 50 have been quoted, some very briefly, in *The Times*.

They were chosen to provide a broad and diverse range of views as possible, in terms of both geography and occupation. None of the conversations was rehearsed, and only a handful were pre-arranged.

The Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra management had agreed in advance to my request to meet some of its players, who were selected, evidently at random, by the orchestra's leader. The two doctors I interviewed were suggested by the British Medical Association. Lancashire County Cricket Club was anxious that only the captain, David Lloyd, should be quoted.

The ship launching on the Clyde I attended by invitation, but I was free to talk to any of the workers at the yard as well as the coalminers naturally had to be arranged in advance; conversations with miners took place within the manager's hearing, and I was

Journey through Britain: Interviews disclose lack of bitterness
A nation of cheerful, tolerant sceptics

In the last of his articles John Young sums up the findings of his six weeks of travelling around Britain.

asked not to discuss pay or trade union matters. The farmers, fishermen, car salesmen, shop assistants, lorry drivers, unemployed people and housewives were approached entirely coincidentally and at random. My object was generally to talk to as many people as possible and, except in one case, it was never fewer than two.

That one exception concerned the clergy. After an afternoon and a morning of knocking on vicarage doors, only to discover that the incumbents were either out visiting or on holiday, I was fortunate to discover an exceptionally articulate and interesting respondent.

The fact that that interview attracted more correspondence than all the other articles together suggests that it might have been better to adopt the same approach throughout. On the other hand, it might simply indicate that the most avid readers of *The Times* are clergymen.

In every case I tried to avoid leading questions. The object was to persuade people to talk about themselves and their lives and, if some of the answers were banal or boring, they were at least not contrived.

One striking feature was the politeness and friendliness of almost everyone I approached,

and their readiness to talk about themselves. Only three people flatly refused to be interviewed; two were unemployed and were understandably upset about their circumstances, and the other was a woman shopper who probably thought I was trying to sell her something.

A possible drawback in talking to complete strangers is that one naturally tends to choose those who look friendly and intelligent. It is possible that a deliberate attempt to single out people who seemed hostile or hostile might have produced different answers.

Be that as it may, among those I did question there was a marked absence of bitterness. Complaints about inflation were only to be expected, and in some cases people clearly had severe financial difficulties, although others gave the impression that they were making rather more money than they were prepared to admit.

Scarcely anyone blamed the Government or socialism, or thought that things would be any different under any other regime. A few mentioned trade unions or the EEC as being responsible for our economic difficulties, but not in vituperative terms.

One common factor that emerged over and over again was resentment of high taxes.

Clearly taxation is no longer a middle-class preoccupation; it is of concern to shop-floor workers as much as to farmers and doctors.

If one impression is dominant, it is that the "media" have largely lost touch with ordinary people. Those I talked to were not only surprised to be approached by a national newspaper; they were amazed that it should show any interest.

Typical comments were that television programmes and newspapers were either trivial and sensational, or filled with boring discussions about irrelevant matters. Far too much time and space were given to vociferous minorities and extremist views in no way typical of general public opinion. Theatre, film and book reviews were read with growing incredulity.

Suspicion of the press's motives was exemplified in a letter from a reader of *The Times* who complained that I had admitted setting out to find discontent among shop assistants in Newcastle. He had missed the point of course, but he had made another one of his own.

The fact that I found so little discontent in Newcastle or anywhere else, may simply confirm the view that the British are irredeemably complacent. Equally it may suggest a culture, a refusal to be stampeded into believing that the world is collapsing around their ears, and a belief that life does not change all that much and will be much the same tomorrow.

Concluded

Former Labour MP to head farmland inquiry

By Hugh Clayton
Agricultural Correspondent
Lord Northfield, chairman of the Development Commission, is to be chairman of an independent committee to examine ownership of farmland in Britain.

The committee of 10 is expected to take at least six months to prepare its report about one of the most controversial and elusive issues in agriculture. Mr Silkin, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, surprised the farming community and his own advisers when he announced the inquiry on the Country Landowners' Association stand at the Royal Bath and West Show in June.

The committee is to examine issues that are surrounded by bitterness and rumour because of a shortage of data. They include purchases of farmland by institutions as opposed to individuals, and by foreign buyers. The committee will also consider the difficulties faced by landless young farmers.

Lord Northfield, who did research in agricultural economics at Cambridge University at the end of the Second World War, has a long interest in the changing social structure of rural society. As Mr Donald Chapman he was Labour MP for Birmingham, Northfield, for almost 20 years to 1970.

His committee will include Mr Watson Peat, president of the Scottish Agricultural Organisation Society, Mr Peter Gifford, a leading member of the Country Landowners' Association, and Mr Leonard Pike, a district organizer with the National Union of Agricultural and Allied Workers.



Lord Northfield: A long held interest in the changing structure of rural society.

Farmers are worried because although most farmland belongs to farmers much of the small amount that is sold is going to financial institutions. They believe that activity in the market by insurance companies and pension funds with large investment capital may help to increase land prices. They also resent tax advantages that benefit institutional owners but not individuals.

Man dead in cell

Gerald Ernest Kitchener, aged 36, an unemployed lorry driver, of Grasmere Crescent, Skelton, Cleveland, was found hanged in a police cell at Gillingham, Cleveland, early yesterday, an hour after being arrested on assault and criminal damage charges.

Union action forces 'Isis' to seek new printers

From Our Correspondent
Oxford

The Oxford University magazine *Isis* is to seek new printers because of a decision by members of the printing union, the National Graphical Association, to observe rules that would increase the magazine's production costs by 50 per cent, from £600 to £900 an issue.

In the past, workers at the Hollywell Press, whose managing director, Mr Henry Burrows, is a grandson of one of the magazine's founders, have waived the union rules to allow students to typeset articles and prepare pages, work that the NGA says should properly be done by its members.

Mr Anthony Kitchener, the father (chairman) of the NGA chaps (branch) at Hollywell, said: "It is our livelihood that is at stake, and it is important to maintain as much of this sort of work as possible."

Mr Mark Thompson, one of the magazine's co-editors said yesterday: "The main problem is that a great part of the magazine is the contribution people make to the production side because they enjoy it. More than thirty people get together to work on it. We do not feel we can sacrifice this." Mr Thompson said he was confident a new printer would be found and the next issue of the magazine would appear at the beginning of term in three weeks.

Risks from drivers who are prescribed drugs

John Roper
Health Services Correspondent
Professional drivers of buses, trucks and taxis should not be allowed to drive if they are taking medicines that might impair their ability, Dr Andrew Raffie, chief medical officer of London Transport, said yesterday.

At a symposium on drugs and driving, at the British and International Pharmaceutical Conference in London, Dr Raffie said the subject was being given such priority that medical certificates for drivers would be issued for a period of off work. If treatment had to continue, a decision about returning to work must be made in the light of any adverse reaction. We are aware of any adverse reaction. We are aware of any adverse reaction.

There were nearly a million us driving heavy goods vehicles in the country, and about 200,000 are licensed to drive buses or trucks with more than 12 passengers. Professional drivers are to drive for longer hours as private drivers, so the risk of adverse drug reaction interaction was greater. It is also less easy for a professional driver to stop if he was feeling unwell.

The risk of death or injury to the public was high from heavy goods vehicles because of their weight and the relative inefficiency of their braking systems. The load might be increased by high octane or a toxic chemical was obviously a more hazardous load than milk.

Because of their experience professional drivers had a lower rate of driving accidents than private drivers, and all drivers had different reactions to drugs. But even a minimal dose of an amphetamine appeared to be the cause of an Underground train driver passing two stations without stopping and having no knowledge of having done so.

Dr Trevor Silverstone, senior lecturer in psychiatry at St Bartholomew's Medical School, London, said that more than half a million drivers in Britain took psychoactive drugs, including tranquilizers such as Librium and Valium. All such benzodiazepines, if taken in high enough dosage, could produce drowsiness. Some people, however, might drive better after medication, but more research on that was necessary.

Dr Anthony Moffat, head of the drug division of the Home Office central research establishment, said that new testing techniques were being developed for a wide variety of drugs. Cannabis could now be identified from a small blood sample and barbiturates and other sedative drugs could also be analyzed from blood samples. Many more people who smoked cannabis and drove a car might face prosecution.

New style of party election broadcasts suggested

Kenneth Gosling
A suggestion by a Leeds University research team that party election broadcasts should be for half an hour has been supported by Mr Peter Hardiman Scott, chief assistant to the director general of the BBC. He described the Leeds study last night as "one of the sanest pieces of research into election broadcasting that I have ever read."

Mr Hardiman Scott said there had been a fair share-out of broadcasting time at the next election. Last time, Plaid Cymru was allowed one television broadcast in Wales and the British National Party two in England. That was nevertheless unjust, the Scottish nationalists, because the Liberals, whose broadcasts were transmitted throughout the United Kingdom, including Scotland, had, although their share of the British vote was only a third of that of the Scottish nationalists, "I speak only as a democrat, but that strikes me as unfair," he said.

Broadcasts, the researchers suggest, should begin with eight or ten minutes of unfettered political advocacy. Then there should be about twenty minutes of impartial scrutiny by political journalists or other experts, and two minutes or so at the end for the party to have the last word.

"The advantage is that it might restore the lost integrity of party political broadcasts," Mr Hardiman Scott said. "But more important, it would be a better service to the voter, a better way of giving him information and helping him to make up his mind."

Change urged in law on stolen goods

By Our Legal Correspondent
A thief or receiver of stolen goods should no longer be entitled to benefit from the rule that an owner cannot sue for the return of his property after six years has elapsed, the Law Reform Committee has proposed.

In a report on limitation of actions in other than personal injury cases the committee proposes that the law be changed so that the right of an owner in such cases against a thief or receiver is not barred by lapse of time.

Where, however, the goods have come into the hands of someone who is unaware that they had been stolen, the owner would have to bring his action for their return within six years of their acquisition by the innocent party.

Law Reform Committee. Final Report on Limitation of Actions. (Cmd 6293. Stationery Office, 21-40.)

Don Revie suing 'Daily Mirror' for libel

Mr Don Revie, the former Leeds United and England football manager, is suing the *Daily Mirror* for damages for libel. The action concerns allegations in a series of articles. On September 7 Mr Revie issued a statement through his solicitors saying he completely denied the allegations.

The Football Association has notified that it is setting up a committee of inquiry into the allegations with the support of the Football League.

Mr Revie resigned the England manager's job in July to become manager of the United Arab Emirates team.

Roy Boulting's decree
Mr Roy Boulting, aged 63, the film producer, was granted a decree nisi against his wife, Mrs Hayley Mills, aged 31, the actress, in London yesterday. Leigh Lawson, the actor, is named in the petition.

WIN

The new Ford Granada
Emphasis on engineering



WIN

The new Ford Granada
Emphasis on engineering



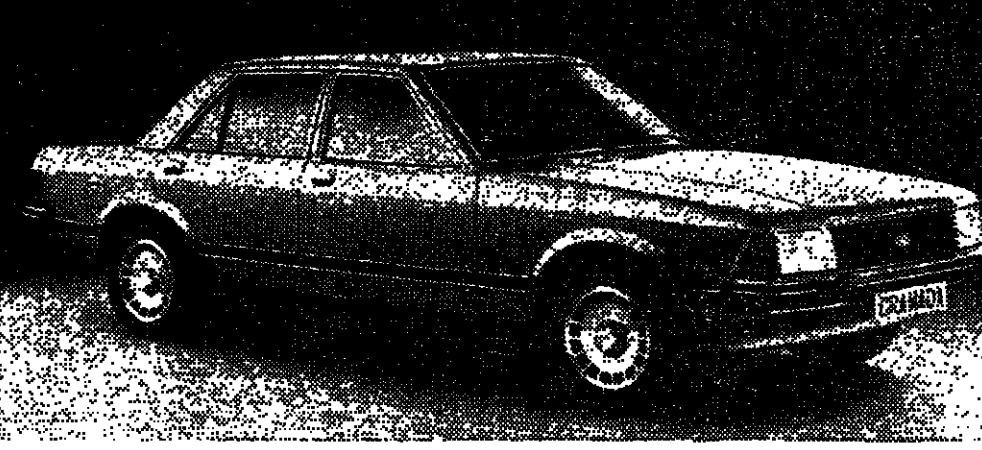
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4 brand new reasons for reading
The Observer tomorrow

For the next 2 weeks *The Observer* are running their greatest ever competition. We're offering, exclusively, four brand new Ford Granada Ghias, each worth £7,000 as prizes.

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More copies of *The Observer* than usual will be printed in expectation of a big demand. But just to be sure of getting yours, place an order with your newsagent.



THE OBSERVER
looks ahead of the times

HOME NEWS

Sharp Nato demand for restoration of cuts in defence

By Henry Stanhope
Defence Correspondent

Britain's boasts about its improved balance of payments have rebounded in the form of a sharp reminder from Nato that revenue from North Sea oil should be used to restore cuts in the country's defence spending. A stern letter has been received from Dr Joseph Luns, the Nato Secretary General, about the £230m cut, announced by the Government last December.

Dr Luns's letter to Mr Mulley, Secretary of State for Defence, points out that the latest reductions mean that British planned spending has been cut by more than one-sixth since before the 1974-75 defence review.

"It is particularly disturbing that these negative developments coincide with a sharpened awareness of the strategic importance of the unremitting effort made by the Warsaw Pact to improve its offensive posture and of the implications of this for our future security."

Despite allied sympathy for Britain's position during the last few years, "any further cuts will not be understood by its allies or find any measure of support on their part."

Dr Luns refers to recent indications of a brighter economic future for Britain. "We have noted with interest reports that your Government hopes to use part of the growing oil revenue to reverse some of the cuts made in public spending. When that happens it is essential that the defence sector not merely reverts to the levels set by the United Kingdom defence review but recovers part at least of the savings which, in our view to be disproportionate extent, it has been forced to carry."

The Ministry of Defence reply points out that even after the 1974-75 cuts Britain will still be devoting about 5 per cent of its gross national product to defence, well above the average for European members of Nato.

Moreover, it argues that Britain is spending a higher proportion of its defence budget on equipment than any other ally. Not only does Britain commit 193,000 high quality combat personnel to Nato, but it contributes the largest number of ships and the second largest number of aircraft among the European members.

The Government, it says, shows the alliance's concern about the growing disparity between the military capabilities of Nato and the Warsaw Pact. It promises that all factors will be taken into account when the defence budget after 1978-79 is considered under the next public expenditure survey.

As for the £230m—equal to £267m at 1977 survey prices—about half is expected to come from the equipment programme and the other half from the Ministry's works programme, and the balance will be found by cuts in the support areas of defence spending.

The Ministry acknowledges that some equipment projects will be deferred and others cancelled, but not the main equipment programmes for the front line. There will also be cuts in research and development.

The statement also emphasizes that the final package of specific measures is provisional and that the pattern of defence spending as a whole or any part of it will be subject to review during the 1978-79 estimates.

Wider social services needed, Mr Ennals says

By a Staff Reporter

Britain's resources for social work must be expanded to keep pace with the demand for them, Mr Ennals, Secretary of State for Social Services, said yesterday.

He told the annual conference of the British Association of Social Workers at Aberystwyth that the rapid increase in client demand for personal social services since 1971 necessitated an expansion of the services.

"Restraint in public expenditure has forced a halt to this expansion, but it must resume before long if we are to achieve our social work aims and cope with so much social demand," Mr Ennals said.

He said the health and personal social services are too often convenient Aunt Sallies for sensationalism and condemnation by those seeking cheap publicity, he said.

"They will select an individual judgment by a social worker on an isolated incident at a hospital to condemn a service that does a splendid job, often in very difficult circumstances."

The present service, he said, must pave the way for the next stage of expansion. The public must be convinced of the need for such expansion by a humane and efficient approach by social workers.

The number of social workers in the field had increased from 8,600 to 15,800 in the past six years, but they had to cope with an increase of 10 per cent in the number of children in care over a similar period and a substantial rise in the elderly population.

Mr Ennals said the number of people aged over 75 would reach nearly three million in the next twenty years.

Jobs for teachers

Fifty extra teachers, most of them primary, are to be appointed by Loutham Regional Council at schools with special difficulties.

WEST EUROPE

West Berlin is trying to disperse its record influx of applicants, many of whom are from Muslim states Asylum plea as immigration ploy

From Gretel Spitzer
Berlin, Sept 16

The number of people asking for political asylum in West Berlin will set a record this year. By the end of last month 3,415 people had applied, almost as many as during all of last year, when 3,327 were registered.

Many of them are from Pakistan or the Middle East, and have no right to claim political asylum and will not go to it. But applying means that they can stay in West Germany for between three and six years living on social allowances; it takes that long to exhaust all possibilities of the law.

West Berlin, which now accommodates more than half of the roughly 11,000 foreigners who have applied for asylum in West Germany in recent years, wants to test the influx away from the city, but that will be difficult, as half of those seeking asylum enter via Berlin, often on inexpensive flights from the Middle East with interflights from East German airlines, which land in East Berlin.

In the past, all asylum-seeking foreigners were sent to Zindorf in Bavaria, a federal agency there that handled their applications and distributed them to the various West German states in accordance with a quota system.

Zindorf has been closed since August 1. It became overcrowded because two of the states refused to accept their quotas, and Berlin was left with many more than its quota.

In late August, after intensive discussion with the reluctant West German states, several hundred foreigners were flown out of Berlin to the states. Those bound for Bavaria, 26 people, mostly Pakistanis, were back in no time. There had been no medical examination before departure, the Bavarian authorities said.

Medical examinations as a rule take place at the foreigners' destination anyway, but Berlin obliged before putting the 26 on a bus back to Bavaria again. However, their places in Berlin had been taken in the meantime by new arrivals.

Most of the applicants for political refuge come well before the four-day way out, erring from the East Berlin airport straight to one of the "asylum lawyers" who will act on their behalf. Pakistan newspaper, as Berlin authorities are aware, provide such information at home.

Since word has spread that more false applications for asylum are being rejected, another method of gaining status in West Germany has flourished: finding a German wife. The result is advertisements such as "26-year-old Jordanian wants a German wife, could be older," or "24-year-old foreigners wants to marry woman in order to get permit of residence without payment and with no obligation on her part involved."

The authorities say that between DM2,000 (£500) and DM5,000 are paid for a girl or woman agreeing to a pretended marriage.

Italian party 'giving up Marx'

Rome, Sept 16.—The West's largest communist party is abandoning strict adherence to Marxist ideology in favour of a more moderate, social-democratic approach, a member of the Italian Communist Party central committee said today.

Signor Lucio Lombardo Radice, a leading party theoretician, told the Turin newspaper *Avanti!* that the Italian party probably would abolish required adherence to Marxist-Leninist principles at its next general congress.

"The term Marxist-Leninist has disappeared from the Italian Communist Party vocabulary in a natural way, without prohibitions, like the disappearance of the term dictatorship of the proletariat," Signor Lombardo-Radice said.

Asked if Italian communists could still be considered Marxist if party members were not required to follow Marxist principles, Signor Lombardo-Radice said: "I understand the objection. But it is preferable to say this is a party that grew out of Marx."—UPI.

Schmidt tour delayed by kidnap talks

From Patricia Clough
Bonn, Sept 16

Herr Schmidt, the Chancellor, today postponed an official visit to Poland because of the Government's negotiations with the kidnappers of Hans-Martin Schleyer, president of the *Industrie* Federation.

Herr Klaus Boelling, the Government spokesman, said the situation made the Chancellor's presence in Bonn "compellingly necessary." A new visit, he said, would have to be postponed because of the kidnapping. A visit by Mr Callaghan was put off last week at the British Prime Minister's suggestion.

The visit, considered here an important milestone in the developing relations between West Germany and Poland, was postponed because of the kidnapping. A visit by Mr Callaghan was put off last week at the British Prime Minister's suggestion.

Dr Denis Payot, the Geneva lawyer acting as go-between in the talks with the kidnappers, said the Government had sent another message to the terrorists broke an official silence of several days. He gave no indication of the contents of the message.

A report in the newspaper *Die Welt* that the kidnappers had sent the authorities proof alive was neither confirmed nor denied. Herr Schleyer was still considered alive, the report said. The Government had received a video tape showing Herr Schleyer reading newspaper reports of the kidnapping.

Basque party repudiates violent tactics of ETA

From William Chislett
Madrid, Sept 16

In an unprecedented move the Basque Nationalist Party (PNV) has publicly called for the Basque separatist organization ETA to stop demanding money from industrialists under threat of violence.

The PNV has always been reluctant openly to criticize ETA, which it has moral support under the dictatorship. But since the death of Franco there has been a notable change of attitude by most Basques towards ETA's violent tactics, demanding money from industrialists is one of the ways in which ETA finances itself.

With the return imminent of the Generalitat, the autonomous government of Catalonia, the Basque political parties are anxious to start negotiations with the Suarez Government for a reestablishment of the degree of autonomy they enjoyed under the republic.

Initial agreement was reached yesterday between the PNV and the Spanish Workers' Socialist Party, which has 24 of the 38 parliamentary seats in the Basque country, on reestablishing various organizations, including an Assembly.

This agreement could form the basis for Government negotiations over Basque autonomy. It was learnt today that Señor Manuel Clavero, the Minister for the Regions, is expected to talk with Basque politicians for the first time on Monday.

According to an informed source, the Government is considering a PNV proposal for a decree granting total amnesty for all politically motivated crimes of violence. Newspapers here have also speculated that the reason why the PNV abstained on the Socialist motion last Wednesday was because of an amnesty pact between the Government and the PNV.

Madrid, Sept 16.—The Communist party today denied reports that its press campaign for the reestablishment of the Basque Republic was a civil war—will relinquish her seat in the Cortes (Parliament) and return to her home town. She is recovering from heart surgery earlier this month.—UPI.

M Fabre firm towards Communist Goliath

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Sept 16

Like David confronting Goliath, M Robert Fabre, leader of the left Radicals, stood his ground last night in a tense television debate against M Georges Marchais, leader of the Communist Party.

Just before it took place, M Fabre had obtained the unusual backing of his party for his stand against Communist intransigence at Wednesday's "summit" of the Union of the Left, though the party's resolution paradoxically hoped that the suspension of negotiations would "force" reflection, make it possible to avoid all uncompromising stands and thus create the conditions for the success of the left.

Last night's debate showed, however, that for the moment neither of the protagonists was disposed to yield, although M Marchais was ostentatiously more conciliatory than M Fabre.

"For us, everything is negotiable," he said. "My party is worried. One does not work for 15 years at a policy of union to see it gambled on a single gesture. Let us forget what has happened. Let us resume discussions tomorrow, Sunday, Monday. It is up to you."

But he refused to delete from the common programme the line about allowing for the nationalization of a firm if the majority of the workers demanded it. As for nationalization, the discussion on it last Wednesday had not even been finished.

M Fabre said: "Acknowledge that you don't want to make any concessions," adding: "We shall not return to the conference table so long as the Communists refuse to stand. There is tremendous anxiety throughout the country, and those Frenchmen we have brought to the Union of the Left are beginning to re-

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The PNV has always been reluctant openly to criticize ETA, which it has moral support under the dictatorship. But since the death of Franco there has been a notable change of attitude by most Basques towards ETA's violent tactics, demanding money from industrialists is one of the ways in which ETA finances itself.

With the return imminent of the Generalitat, the autonomous government of Catalonia, the Basque political parties are anxious to start negotiations with the Suarez Government for a reestablishment of the degree of autonomy they enjoyed under the republic.

Initial agreement was reached yesterday between the PNV and the Spanish Workers' Socialist Party, which has 24 of the 38 parliamentary seats in the Basque country, on reestablishing various organizations, including an Assembly.

This agreement could form the basis for Government negotiations over Basque autonomy. It was learnt today that Señor Manuel Clavero, the Minister for the Regions, is expected to talk with Basque politicians for the first time on Monday.

According to an informed source, the Government is considering a PNV proposal for a decree granting total amnesty for all politically motivated crimes of violence. Newspapers here have also speculated that the reason why the PNV abstained on the Socialist motion last Wednesday was because of an amnesty pact between the Government and the PNV.

Madrid, Sept 16.—The Communist party today denied reports that its press campaign for the reestablishment of the Basque Republic was a civil war—will relinquish her seat in the Cortes (Parliament) and return to her home town. She is recovering from heart surgery earlier this month.—UPI.

10,000 apply for GLC home loans

By Our Local Government Correspondent

The Conservative-controlled Greater London Council has now received more than 10,000 applications about its home loan scheme in inner London in which old GLC properties are offered for sale on a deferred mortgage basis.

The scheme is proving successful, but the council still has money to offer to home buyers. Earlier this summer, it announced a £13m expansion to its home-owners scheme to increase the total amounts of mortgage fund available this year to £36m. About half remains unused.

The council's mortgages are available to anyone wanting to buy a pre-1940 property in inner London valued up to £12,500 and who cannot get a loan elsewhere. The mortgages have an interest rate of 10 1/2 per cent. Mr George Tremlett, leader of the GLC housing policy committee, said yesterday that in addition nearly 14,000 tenants had applied to buy their council homes.

Plan to increase influence of employers in schools

By Annabel Ferriman

A network of centres that would bring together teachers and employers was proposed yesterday by Mr Keith Hampson, Conservative MP for Ripon and vice-chairman of the Conservative parliamentary education committee.

The centres would provide information for teachers about the existing and give industry a chance to influence teaching in schools.

Mr Hampson said that such centres would be able to "guide pupils into appropriate education and training courses, set up work-study and sandwich courses; they would simply better inform people."

Holiday flights cancelled as TAP pilots strike again

From Jose Shercliff
Lisbon, Sept 16

Portugal's second strike of TAP airline pilots in a week began at midnight last night in defiance of a Government order placing all civil airline pilots under state control.

Of 52 flights scheduled for today, only one—a consignment of medicine and livestock for the Azores—was authorized to take off by the civil aviation pilots' syndicate which called the strike.

Holiday flights were cancelled to the southern Algarve and Madeira where the authorities are trying to charter foreign aircraft to handle the island's heavy traffic. The cruise liner *Sunchal* may also be used to take holidaymakers back to the mainland.

A spokesman for one of the strike committees said that the pilots affiliated to the International Pilots' Association are studying the possibility of enlisting their associates' support for a four-day strike in Portugal and from Portugal on September 21 and 22.

Air controllers intensify go-slow in Spain

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, Sept 16

Spain's air controllers worked even more closely to rule today, reducing their normal workload by half and so causing flight delays of up to six hours.

The controllers decided in Barcelona last night to prolong their action until September 30, when they would go on strike if better conditions were not agreed. The transport Minister has already promised that they will cease to be under military control, another of their grievances.

The authorities suspended last night's controllers at the main Madrid air control centre for tonight's pass on the go-slow instructions by telephone to other airports.

He successfully asked Parliament to restate a Christian-Democratic amendment approving the ban in the North Sea in 1977, but calling for reserve quotas for human consumption next year with a ban on industrial fishing. He said the ban must be kept on next year.

Mr Dayan has talks with Nato commander

Brussels, Sept 16.—Mr Moshe Dayan, Israeli Foreign Minister, today met General Alexander Haig, the Nato Supreme Commander in Europe, an Israeli spokesman said here.

He gave no details of what they discussed, but said the personal talks lasted about an hour.

A Nato spokesman said: "The general merely stopped by the residence to pay a courtesy call on an old friend." General Haig did not request the meeting, the spokesman added.

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Italian wine... You are my sunshine...

Italian wine... my only sunshine...

Italian wine... you make me happy...

Italian wine... when skies are grey.

PARLIAMENT, September 16, 1977 North Sea herring fishing ban approved as Commission hints of extension into 1979

European Parliament
Luxembourg
The banning until the end of 1978 of herring fishing in the North Sea for both human consumption and industrial purposes was approved by Parliament. All Community waters except some areas of the Celtic Sea and some waters off the coast of Scotland and Ireland are to be covered by the ban.

Present restrictions run until the end of this month. MPs approved the ban on herring fishing in the North Sea, West of Ireland and West of Scotland until the end of this month.

He successfully asked Parliament to restate a Christian-Democratic amendment approving the ban in the North Sea in 1977, but calling for reserve quotas for human consumption next year with a ban on industrial fishing. He said the ban must be kept on next year.

He also persuaded MPs to reject another amendment from two Danish members that quotas in the areas where herring fishing was still allowed this year should be reduced to 10 per cent of the catches in the North Sea under historical rights.

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OVERSEAS M Barre makes strong plea for more US landings by Concorde

From David Cross
Washington, Sept 16

Mr Raymond Barre, the French Prime Minister, has made a forceful appeal to President Carter to authorize more landings for the Anglo-French Concorde at American airports.

At a dinner with Administration leaders here last night, M. Barre said his country was confidently awaiting the decisions of the United States Government and judiciary.

"We are convinced they will not consider the traditions to which you declare you are so profoundly attached," he added in a reference to an earlier statement by Mr Carter in which the President underlined the importance of the United States' attachment to traditions of friendship and alliance with France.

The French leader's appeal coincided with the publication of a congressional report condemning the supersonic airliner for noise pollution. The report, which was published by the influential General Accounting Office (GAO), maintained that permission for Concorde to land at United States airports would be a backward step in national efforts to reduce noise levels.

M. Barre, who is in the American capital for two days of talks with President Carter and his colleagues, elaborated his Government's views on Concorde at a private meeting with Mr Carter yesterday shortly after his arrival in the United States.

He is reported to have explained that a decision not to grant landing rights to New York, for example, would be incomprehensible in Europe and would damage America's reputation as an upholder of fair play and free competition.

In response, Mr Carter would go no further than to promise to define his Administration's attitude to Concorde by the end of next week, when the period of trial landings at Dulles ends.

The Administration is known to be considering a number of options, ranging from a complete ban to granting landing facilities at 11 American airports.

The GAO report claimed Concorde was counter to the thrust of the national noise abatement effort principally because it exceeded present noise standards for slower aircraft and could not be modified to meet them.

It also challenged the validity of a public opinion survey carried out among residents in the Dulles airport area, arguing there were deficiencies in the sampling method, the design of the questionnaire and the processing of replies.

The report was released by Mr Leo Ryan, Democratic chairman of the subcommittee on environment, energy and natural resources of the House of Representatives. Mr Ryan, who is a fervent opponent of Concorde, described the findings as "deadly".

"The aircraft is revealed to be as noisy as the maximum anticipated and the level of noise is at the threshold of pain," he claimed.

Mr Ryan has written to Mr Brock Adams, the Secretary of Transportation, asking the decision on the future of Concorde until Congress has assessed all the data collected during the 16-month trial landing period at Dulles. He has also said that his week's decision will authorize more landings for the aircraft.

Key post for Quebecker in Canadian reshuffle

From John Best
Ottawa, Sept 16

Mr Trudeau, the Prime Minister, carried out an important Cabinet shuffle today, naming Mr Jean Chretien as Canada's first French-speaking Finance Minister and Mr Marc Lalonde to the new post of Minister of State for Federal-Provincial Relations.

The most important change was that involving Mr Chretien, aged 43, formerly Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. He takes over the finance portfolio from Mr Donald MacDonald, who resigned last week for personal reasons, at a time of economic malaise in Canada.

Mr Chretien's appointment means that he has decided against returning to Quebec to contest the leadership of that province's troubled Liberal party.

The appointment of Mr Lalonde, aged 48, until now Health and Welfare Minister, is also related to the Quebec situation and will involve him in future manoeuvring between the federal and Quebec governments over the province's status.

Other changes announced by the Prime Minister included: Mr Acaan MacEachen to the new post of Deputy Prime Minister while remaining President of the Privy Council; Mr Jack Horner, Minister without Portfolio, to become Trade and Commerce Minister; Mr Joseph Guay, Minister for Multiculturalism, to become Revenue Minister; Mr Wilfrid Adams, Indian and Northern Affairs Minister, to become Consumer and Corporate Affairs Minister; Mr Hugh Faulkner, Minister for Science and Technology, to become Indian and Northern Affairs Minister.



Pop idol: Eric Parks, considered at 29 one of America's foremost sculptors, works on a model for a 50-ton bronze of the late Elvis Presley that will stand on a river bluff in Memphis, Tennessee.

Second round for New York rivals

From Michael Leapman
New York, Sept 16

The Americans run their elections in much the same way as they run their baseball. The same teams play each other time after time, up to a dozen times a season.

For instance, for the past three nights there have been games here between the Yankees and the Boston Red Sox, vying for the honours of their division. The two teams will meet again twice in Boston next week.

Also next week, Mr Mario Cuomo and Mr Edward Koch will face each other again in the second round of the contest for the more dubious honour of being mayor of New York. They qualified for Monday's runoff in the Democratic primary election by finishing first and second in a field of seven in the first round last week.

If Mr Koch wins, they will face each other for a third time in the election proper in November. Mr Cuomo is already secured a place on the ballot as the liberal nominee, though he is unlikely

to win without the Democratic nod to go with it.

The brief campaign between the primary election and the runoff has been very much the same as what went before, except that with only two candidates there has been greater scope for concentrated personal abuse.

Mr Cuomo has taken advantage of this more than his opponent, running a wide television advertisement which shows Mr Koch as facing both ways and bending with any favourable wind.

He withdrew from circulation an even more vicious one, in which he accused Mr Koch of being a racist. Mr John Lindsay, the former mayor who was once congressman for Mr Koch's district, and whom many blame for laying the groundwork for the city's recent fiscal misfortunes.

There is another interesting rumour about the election of president of the City Council, effectively deputy mayor. The contestants are Mr Paul O'Dwyer, who holds the job now, and Miss Carol Bellamy, a young and vigorous campaigner who gained second place in last week's primary with hardly any advertising, simply by running round the city smiling and chatting to as many people as possible.

Mr O'Dwyer, who could well be defeated, has been a prominent critic of Britain's policy in Ireland.

photographed on the steps of City Hall with leaders of the black community. Mr Koch gathered together a bigger number of black leaders and had his picture taken with them.

It is anybody's guess who will win. Only one percentage point separated the two in the primary. It is possible that Mr Koch's support for capital punishment—still the most discussed of black leaders' issues—could tip the balance in his favour, but after the surprise result of the first round few are prepared to make any firm prediction.

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Namibia independence talks 'near success'

From Ray Kennedy
Johannesburg, Sept 16

Talks between the West and South Africa on an internationally acceptable independence formula for south-west Africa (Namibia) could be nearing success despite the hard line adopted by Mr Vorster, the South African Prime Minister, on Walvis Bay.

A western diplomatic source close to the negotiations said here that there were "tremendous signs" that things were working out.

The "contact group" of five Western ambassadors representing Britain, the United States, France, West Germany and Canada are due to meet Mr Vorster and senior members of the Government for the third time in Pretoria next Thursday and Friday.

The talks will coincide with the opening of this year's United Nations General Assembly at which the Namibian issue will be a priority.

Mr Vorster has threatened to break off the negotiations unless the West ceases to dispute the legality of South Africa's claim to Walvis Bay, the only deep-water port on the Namibian coast. A diplomatic source said: "It is considered more expedient not to highlight the issue at the moment."

Two points are expected to dominate next week's talks: the presence of South African troops in the territory during pre-independence elections and the appointment of a senior United Nations official to work with the South African-appointed interim administrator.

The South-West African People's Organization (SWAPO) has said it will not contest the elections while South African

troops remain, but Mr Vorster's Government is refusing to consider any withdrawal while there is still a threat of guerrilla activity and intimidation.

It is believed the contact group will suggest a compromise whereby the troops would be placed under United Nations command, as was the case in the Korean War in the 1950s.

Mr Justice Martinus Steyn, a South African judge, began work as Administrator-General in Windhoek on September 1. The diplomatic source said that although it was recognized that South Africa had administrative problems in the territory, the long as nations felt the timing of the appointment was "not too good". It would have been better delayed until agreement had been reached on the choice of the United Nations official who would work with him.

According to reports here that appointment has been held up because South Africa opposed the choice by Dr Kurt Waldheim, United Nations Secretary-General, of Mr Abdul Aziz Abdi, chairman of the United Nations Council for Namibia.

The diplomatic source said, however, he had not heard suggestions that any particular individual had been turned down.

The diplomat gave warning that the contact group could not speak for the Security Council in its dealings with the South African Government and that any solution it proposed might be vetoed in the council by, for instance, the Soviet Union.

But he added that it was a matter of "great significance" that South Africa was now recognizing openly and for the first time the need for an independence plan to be internationally acceptable.

Editor claims detained black leader did not starve

From Our Correspondent
Johannesburg, Sept 16

Mr Steven Biko, the black South African leader who died in detention on Monday, did not starve himself, a close friend told a protest meeting in Johannesburg today.

Mr James Kruger, the Minister of Justice and Police, announced that Mr Biko died after an eight-day hunger strike. Mr Donald Woods, editor of the East London Daily Dispatch and a close friend of Mr Biko for several years, said at Witwatersrand University that Mr Biko had vowed in conversation with him never to go on a hunger strike, no matter how much he was persecuted.

Mr Woods, who is making an emotional speaking tour of universities paying tribute to Mr Biko, whom he calls "the greatest man I ever met," told his audience: "I, J. F. van Haarveld said he thought the abrasions on both ears and the neck, were made by 'impression contact'. There was not enough evidence to state they were caused electrically.—Reuter.

finger was laid on him," when the truth comes out.

No data has been fixed for the inquest and the findings of the post mortem examination of Mr Biko are not expected to be known for some time.

In Durban, an opposition MP, Mr Graham McIntosh, aged 30, said he and his wife would start an eight-day fast on Sunday. He wanted to prove a man of Mr Biko's age would not die after eight days without food.

Inquest evidence: A pathologist told a Johannesburg inquest he had found marks on the body of Mr Nabaath Nshuntha, a black detainee found hanging in his cell last December.

Rhodesians 'seeking clarification'

Salisbury, Sept 16.—The Rhodesian Government has sent Britain a memorandum and additional representations on the Anglo-American peace plan and is awaiting a reply.

Mr Ian Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister, was quoted as saying:

"The Rhodesia Herald reported him as saying in an interview that, after talks between Rhodesian and British and American officials, 'a memorandum has been sent to the British Government seeking clarification of the number of points contained in the White Paper (which detailed the peace proposals)'. 'In addition, we have made certain other representations concerning aspects of the White Paper and the statement on the position of the security forces issued by Dr Owen at his press conference on September 1. We now await a reply'."

Rhodesia today dismissed allegations by Botswana that an imminent attack was being prepared against that country, and declared they could pre-empt fresh guerrilla raids from Botswana into Rhodesia.

Terrorists operating from Botswana have in the past murdered innocent civilians and abducted schoolchildren for terrorist training, a Foreign Ministry statement said.

A security forces spokesman said that there were now about 3,500 black nationalist guerrillas in Rhodesia—1,000 more than five months ago.

Sister Janice Ann McLaughlin, aged 35, an American Roman Catholic nun facing charges of spreading alarm and despondency, was refused release on bail today by a magistrate who called her "a dedicated supporter of the terrorist cause" and a "grave security risk".—Reuter and UPI.

Dr Peter Brethoud writes: Father Director "Schott" is executive member of the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace, has been rearrested in Salisbury.

First stand-by passenger flies Atlantic for £64

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

Trans World Airways claimed yesterday it was the first to offer a stand-by seat late on Thursday night after the British and United States aviation authorities had agreed over the transatlantic telephone that the new fares could begin that day.

A man from the north of England travelled on a regular TWA flight at a single fare of £64 compared with the normal return fare of £392. He said he was visiting relatives in Oregon.

The big airlines, led by Trans World, Pan American, and British Airways, have been forced into offering cut-price travel between London and New York by the competitive arrival of Laker Airways, which is due to begin its Skytrain service on Monday week, with a single fare of £53.

Under regulations issued by the British Civil Aviation Authority to prevent further congestion at Heathrow airport, which is already overcrowded, stand-by passengers have to check in to see if they have a chance of a seat at air terminals rather than at the airport. Seats can be booked from 4 am on the day of departure.

Charter move: The Advanced Booking Charter Operators' Council has asked the Civil Aviation Authority to withdraw the 45-day minimum advance booking provision on charter flights. Withdrawal would maintain the competitiveness of charter flights with stand-by and budget fares.

Washington plan for 3 pc rise in defence spending

Washington, Sept 16.—The United States plans to increase defence spending by 3 per cent a year in real terms to offset growing Soviet power, Mr Harold Brown, the Defence Secretary, said today.

He told a meeting of defence contractors that the Soviet Union was in the process of acquiring military power comparable to that of the United States. Defence spending would be raised "to assure deterrence".

Congress recently approved a 1978 defence budget of about \$116,000m (about £68,000m). A 3 per cent increase in real terms would mean a 1979 defence budget of nearly \$122,000m.

Mr Brown disclosed that the Soviet Union was developing four new missiles and modifying four others.

"Exactly why the Soviets are pushing so hard to improve their strategic nuclear capabilities is uncertain," Mr Brown said.

Lance Learing puts Senate committee on the defensive

A political battle one cannot afford to win

From James Reson
Washington, Sept 16

Bert Lance clearly won the first round of his battle with the United States Senate, but in politics there are some battles you can't afford to win. Lance chose to put the Senate committee on the defensive, to attack his attackers, but it is fairly clear that he was trying to save himself and not his job.

Nobody knows better than Lance's lawyer, Clark Clifford, the survivor of many tragic struggles in Washington, that you can defy the Senate or live with the Senate, but you can't do both for long.

Accordingly, it is a reasonable guess here that Lance, in his savage attack on Ribicoff of Connecticut and Percy of Illinois, and even on the whole confirming process of the Senate, must have decided to defend his character and then

take a one-way ticket back home to Atlanta.

In personal terms, Lance was an appealing witness: calm and eloquent. He read a competent, factual statement of his case without a gulp and with admirable testimony, he had done nothing wrong, or if he had, it was without his knowledge when he was running for Governor, and besides nobody had ever lost a cent in his banks; overdrafts were available to everybody on the record, were even good business.

The trouble, he suggested, was with the Senate, specifically with the committee that confirmed him as head of the Office of Management and Budget without reading the facts he had given them, and then with the press that had dramatized the charges against him without hearing his side of the story.

Lance turned the whole controversy round. He was not the accused but the accuser. His reputation and even his integrity had been questioned, he said. He had been attacked as a swindler, and a financial craphunter, who used his bank as a personal toy or playpen.

The press had challenged his honesty, he added—attacked his integrity, and invaded his privacy. Lance clearly had some legitimate grievances. Senators Ribicoff and Percy had called for his resignation on the White House lawn and on the basis of unproved allegations.

They tried to explain that they had tried to have a private conversation with President Carter, but had been urged by some unnamed White House officials to talk to the press after they saw the President. But they never explained why

they felt obliged at that point to suggest that Lance should resign without producing their evidence.

Anyway, even if Bert Lance won the first round, he will probably have to go home. He cannot possibly win his fight with the Senate, and still get its support for the management and organization of the budget.

There is another fundamental problem. If Lance is not careful, he will not only lose his job but, to put it gently, he will lose his shirt.

It is not only the committee of the Senate that worries about his financial difficulties. That is all in the past. But in the future, Bert Lance has to worry about his own financial solvency. His problem now is not how to keep his job in Washington, but how to regain his work and reestablish his old life in Georgia as a banker. New York Times News Service.

Greece to reform law on military service

From Our Own Correspondent
Athens, Sept 16

Greek conscientious objectors are to be excused from carrying arms but will have to serve in army auxiliary services for four years, twice as long as national servicemen, according to a draft Bill tabled in Parliament by the Ministers of Justice and Defence.

Scores of Jehovah's Witnesses are serving long prison sentences after being court-martialled for refusing to carry arms. Some of them are serving a second or third sentence because, as soon as they are released, they are called up again and convicted when they refuse.

There are about 20,000 Jehovah's Witnesses in Greece. Under the draft law, conscientious objectors will be given the option of longer military service. Refusal to bear arms will no longer be an offence. All those now jailed will be released.

New trial in Kent State case

From Michael Binyon
Washington, Sept 16

A former Governor of Ohio, state officials and National Guardsmen will have to stand trial again for their part in the shootings of four students at Kent State University on May 4, 1970.

An appeals court has overturned an earlier verdict absolving them from damages, because it found that at least one jury member had been threatened and assaulted during the trial by a person interested in its outcome.

A damages suit for \$46m (about £27m) was brought in 1975 by parents of the four dead students and by nine other students wounded in the shootings. Governor Rhodes sent the case to the National Guard, which opened fire on the demonstrators.

The memory of this traumatic event has been revived this summer by a new series of demonstrations at Kent State—this time to protest against

plans by the university to build a \$6m gymnasium near the scene of the shootings. Demonstrators, calling themselves the May 4 Coalition, have occupied the site to prevent construction, and about 280 of them have been arrested.

The Coalition has tried to have the whole area declared a national monument, and wants it preserved as it is in perpetuity. But after a series of temporary injunctions holding up construction, all the courts and appeals courts have ruled that the university can go ahead with the building.

Lawyers for former Governor Rhodes are withholding comment pending litigation. The appeals court has also ordered all claims to be dropped against Mr Robert White, president of the university in 1970, because it said he had no control over the actions of the National Guard.

Mr Lance denies attempt at arranging cover-up

Continued from page 1

with senators he must work with in the future. Mr Lance discussed these matters at considerable length today.

He asserted that, in spite of the investigations into his affairs, he had ensured that the work of the Office of Management and Budget continued to move forward on time in relation to preparing the next budget, planning government reorganisations and in reducing the zero-based budgeting concept. The committee should investigate his office's performance over the past eight months if it had any doubts about his ability to run such an important section of the Government, he said.

If he was drummed out of office after being found innocent, solely because it was claimed that the investigations had prevented him from doing his job, the American system of government would be badly damaged.

Mr Lance denied that he ever tried to influence officials to cover up past investigations into his affairs by the Office of Comptroller of the Currency and by the Department of Justice. In answer to a question on one such alleged attempt he said: "Absolutely not—directly, indirectly, third hand, fourth hand—did I ever do such a thing."

The committee spent much time discussing what its main purpose should be and how much longer it should spend on the matter.

Some committee members are now trying to end the sessions with Mr Lance as soon as possible, perhaps as early as noon tomorrow. There are also efforts to confine the investigation to the sole question of whether Mr Lance withheld information about himself at his confirmation hearing in January.

If Mr Lance engaged in such fraud, noted several committee members, it is legitimate for the committee to look carefully at his qualifications. However, if no such fraud took place, to quote Senator Danforth, the committee should stick by its past decisions of confirming Mr Lance on the basis of the principle that "a card laid is a card played."

Mr Lance's future is now much more uncertain than at any time in the past 10 days. At the moment it would seem that, of the committee members attending the hearings, there is significant support for him remaining in office from Senator Sam Nunn, Senator Lawton Chiles, Senator Eagleton and Senator Danforth.

Senator Percy, Senator John Heinz and Senator Ribicoff appear to be in favour of Mr Lance resigning.

The other senators, notably such influential men as Senator Henry Jackson and Senator Javits, seem to be undecided.



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Saturday Review

Death of a hunter

by Richard Adams



Illustration by Michael Trevithick

Snitter and Rouf, two dogs escaped from an experimental research station in the Lake District, are attempting to live as wild animals on the fells. Helped by a fox, they kill sheep and raid farms for poultry. Before long the losses attract local publicity. Mr Ephraim, former Austrian refugee, now a tailoring manager in Kendal organizes a hunt with shotguns by Dummerdale farmers as a business publicity stunt. The same morning Snitter, half visionary and half mad as the result of a brain operation in the research station (and subject to intermittent hallucinations of his former master), becomes separated from his companions and sets out to return to their lair alone. Meanwhile the guns, having drawn blank lower down the valley arrive at the head of Dummerdale to continue the search.

Harry Braithwaite, Jack Longmire and the rest had finally decided that probably the best course would be to tackle next the mile-long north-west slope of the Grey Friar, from Fairfield and Hell Gill Pike down towards Cockley Beck and Wreay Bottom. This stretch—by the time they had got up there and down again—would occupy the rest of the morning until lunch time. (Lunch, with beer, was, of course, being provided by Suitable Suits and they were looking forward to it.) Then in the afternoon ("If we've now shot the god in them," as Dennis remarked) they could conclude by getting up on Levers Hause and combing out the Tongue "Us land on either side of Seathwaite Tarn. Mr Furze, still indefatigably taking notes, boarded the minibus and set off with the rest for the top of Wreay and the ascent of Westside Edge, while Mr Ephraim—who had no taste for climbing—disposing his binoculars and gun at the ready, remained alone at Cockley Beck. "If you drive it down towards me, gentlemen, I shall know what to do, shall I? You might find it hung up to dry, eh, by the time you get down for lunch?"

"Wow! he's ett it 'issel", remarked old Routledge, to a general laugh as the minibus moved off again.

Mr Ephraim sat on the parapet of the bridge in the cool November sunshine. Below him the brown Duddon chattered between its rocks. A lone grey wagtail, dark-backed and clear yellow beneath, bobbed and flirted its way upstream from some stone and a robin twittered autumnally in a half-bare mountain ash. With a thrusting heave of its buttocks, a black-faced Heron scrambled up from a peat-rift and trotted away through the ling, while

far beyond, the cloud shadows followed one another in ripples across the great slope of Stonessy Pike. On the Cockley Beck clothes-line, two or three brightly-coloured dishcloths were cracking like whips in the wind.

Mr Ephraim noticed little and felt less of the lonely scene around him. As much as he could, he avoided being alone, for all too often the memories induced by solitude would speak with the voices of hell. He thought of his father and mother, gone without strength before the pursuer, then of his aunt Leah, vanished more than thirty years ago into the night and fog of desolate Europe, slain by God alone knew what sword in the wilderness. His elder brother Mordecai, weeping with shame, had given evidence, for the sake of truth and justice, in the libel action brought in London during the sixties by the infamous Dr Dering, the self-styled experimental research expert of Auschwitz. Yes, it was indeed more than thirty years, thought Mr Ephraim, since the whirlwind had passed and violence had covered the mouth of the wicked; yet still the pestilence walked in the dark places of recollection; and no doubt for him it would always do so. He forced his thoughts towards better memories: of the Dabe, rolling broad and smooth through Austria; of its cities and vineyards. When the evil began he had been only a little child. His mind, like a frightened dog, crept miserably back to the place whence he had tried to expel it. He recalled, one after another, the years during which he had grown up and had journeyed at last to this cold, northern land of idle, half-boskied gentles who concealed their hearts and never spoke their thoughts—or not, at all events, to strangers. And here he was, breaking the seabath among peasants in a cold wind, for the sake of recovering, in so far as anyone could, some part of that substance and standing which his family had once known, before their dispossession and—murder.

"It's a bad world for the helpless", said Mr Ephraim aloud.

He stood up, stamped his feet on the hollow bridge and strode back to the car. This wouldn't do. He must, as so often before, snap out of it. There was as yet no sign of the farmers descending the fells. However, there was no harm in being prepared for the chance of action. Some of the men had thought it more than likely that the dog, if it were on the fell at all, would take alarm quickly, sink away well ahead of the gun line and no harm in being prepared for the chance of action. Some of the men had thought it more than likely that the dog, if it were on the fell at all, would take alarm quickly, sink away well ahead of the gun line and no harm in being prepared for the chance of action. Some of the men had thought it more than likely that the dog, if it were on the fell at all, would take alarm quickly, sink away well ahead of the gun line and no harm in being prepared for the chance of action.

cocked it, put on the safety catch and propped it against the wing. Then he fell to scanning the hillside through his binoculars, first the Grey Friar, then the Crinkle Crag and finally Hard Knott to the west. Suddenly he tensed, swung the glasses a second time towards the foot of Hard Knott pass, adjusted them to give a clearer foreground focus and then remained gazing intently. A smooth-haired, black-and-white dog, not particularly large, was approaching the Duddon along the line of the tributary beck from the north-west. Through the glasses he could distinctly see round its neck a green, plastic collar.

Mr Ephraim, trembling with involuntary excitement, bent down and slipped the safety catch of his gun. Then he returned to studying the approaching dog. Its belly was mud-spained and he could just perceive, along its muzzle, what looked like specks of dried blood. But more remarkable and arresting than all else—and at this Mr Ephraim stared, at first incredulously and then with growing horror and pity—was a deep, hairless cleft, barely healed, pink as the inside of a rabbit's ear and showing the white marks of stitches running clear across the skull from nape to forehead—a terrible gash, giving the dog an unreal appearance, like some macabre creature from a Kafka fantasy or a painting by Hieronymus Bosch.

Mr Ephraim shuddered. Then, to his own surprise, he found the lenses of his binoculars blurred by tears. He brushed them away with the back of his hand and as the dog came nearer, bent down and began gently slapping its knee.

"Komm, Knabe! Komm, Knabe!" called Mr Ephraim. "Armer Teufel, sie haben dich auch erwischt?"

The dog stopped on the road, looking up at him timidly. Then, as he continued to call it and to talk in a low, reassuring voice, it came slowly forward, tail down, eyes wary and body tensed to run at the least sharp noise or movement.

As soon as he saw the man, Snitter stopped uncertainly, both fascinated and repelled, like an underwater swimmer who perceives some large, strange creature, eel or ray, among the coral. He paused, on the one hand overcome by fear and the sense of danger, on the other powerfully drawn by the hope of hearing a kind voice, by the desire to be parted, to stand on his hind legs, put his front paws against human knees and feel his ears scratched. The man removed from in front of his eyes the two dark, glossy circles, bent forward encouragingly and

began to call him in a low, gentle voice.

The ringing sound which, ever since he had woken on Hard Knott, had been creeping by Snitter upon the heather, intensified. It flowed, he now knew, not from his own head but from the strange man's; or rather, it was flowing back and forth between the strange man and himself. The ringing was a vortex, a circling funnel of sound, broad and slow at the top, but descending rapidly inwards to a dizzy, spinning hole which was at once both the pierced centre of his own brain and the barrel of a gun pointed at his muzzle. Whirling circles of time past—his own time and another's—were contracting upon that present where the strange man stood patting his knee and calling to him.

Snitter went hesitantly closer. And now, he perceived clearly, there was, pouring both towards and from the strange man, irresistible as a swift current, a flux—shaggy, with bloody hide—composed of terror and inflicted pain, of ruin, grief and loss. Frightened, he shrank trembling against the stone wall as the road before him filled with a river of inaudible sound—noiseless indeed, yet clear as those unmet dreams of light which in summer drought appear like trickling water across short grass on the hills. Children's voices he could hear, weeping and calling for help as they were swept away; women's, clucking after them and crying in agony; men's, trying to utter prayers and fragments of liturgies cut short as the flood engulfed them. Mockery, too, there was, and echoes of mean, cruel violence.

Clearly through all, as of a tree visible behind drifting mist, he continued to be aware of the actual voice of the man, calling him authoritatively yet kindly to approach. This voice he now realized, was that of Death; but Death who must himself die—had himself died—and would therefore not be hard on a mere dog. In this place there was, in any case, no distinction between him who brought life to an end and him whose life must be ended. He himself, he now knew, was carrying death as a gift, both to bestow and to receive. He padded forward again, deliberately entering the spiral of cries and voices, and in so doing heard more loudly the ringing in his own head, now become a part of their lament. As he went slowly on in the hidden direction the whirling spiral stretched and elongated, tapering to a point that pierced him, a sharp arrow of grief and this arrow he returned, entranced in obedience, as he had carried the wind's song on the fell.

From Warsaw and from Belgium
The ghosts will not release the West.
A weary burden falls upon
The groping remnant that survives.
So this distracted beast
His hopeless search is best he can.
Beyond the notebooks and the knives
A lost dog seeks a vanished man.

Snitter came to the car. As he had hoped the man stopped and waited for him, then, with a hand under his jaw, gently lifted his head, scratched his ears and examined his collar, speaking to him soothingly and reassuringly as he did so. Bemused, he found that he was wagging his tail and licking the lavender-scented fingers. Then the man opened the rear door of the car, leaned in and patted the seat, his black glass tubes clanging forward on the strap. He made no attempt to get in, but he was inside, only continuing to talk to him in a quiet voice of sympathy. Snitter clambered awkwardly into the back of the car and sat down on the seat, his head beginning to throb as he drew in the forgotten smells of oil and petrol fumes, together with those of artificial leather and cleaned glass. Still enraptured in that strange trance which he had entered of his own accord upon the road, he now had no awareness of the wind and sunlight outside, of the white wing-flush of a chaffinch in the sycamore or the sound of the pouring Duddon. He might have been in a roped paddock, listening to echoes rising from the well-shaft below him.

Mr Ephraim fired his gun by the barrel, rested the butt on the ground beside the open rear door and scrambled to put on the safety catch. As he did so Snitter, turning his head, caught sight in the driving mirror of the figure of a man sliding down the hillside—a grey-haired man, carrying a walking-stick and wearing an old tweed overcoat and a yellow scarf. Barking loudly, he leapt for the door. Snitter, Mr Ephraim, impulsively pulled the barrel of the gun towards him, Snitter, trying to push past him, struggled wildly. One front paw claved at his sleeve while the other became caught in the strap. There was a deafening explosion and the gun fell to the ground, dragging Snitter with it. A moment later Mr Ephraim, his face pouring blood, slumped toppled and fell with his body flat in and half out of the car.

When the farmer's wife, the soup-suds still dripping from her bared forearms, came running out of the gate, Snitter, howling in terror, was already across the bridge and two hundred yards up the windy hillside, the Hard Knott, tail between his legs and howling as though he had been hoisted out of hell.

It was after this that the first things began.

© Richard Adams, 1977.
This extract is taken from *The Plague Dogs*, by Richard Adams, which is published by Puffin Books. It is a novel about two dogs who escape from a research station and try to live as wild animals. It is a story of survival and friendship. It is a story of a man who is a refugee and a dog who is a refugee. It is a story of a man who is a refugee and a dog who is a refugee. It is a story of a man who is a refugee and a dog who is a refugee.

Good Food Guide

A Lot for your money

Cahors, capital of the Lot and the ancient province of Quercy, is one of the dozen limestone towns in southwest France through which you pass with piled roofrack on your way between the Channel ports and Spain. Not that the town is all that dour in high summer when the GB plates stream through at a rate of one a minute, pursued by the Dutch and Belgians. Come to that, not all the traffic does stream straight through—some people park and explore the medieval alleys with their smells of coffee, cooking, heat and desire, or take the 100-yard detour off the main Boulevard Gambetta to the fortified fourteenth-century Pont Valentin, one of the loveliest bridges in the world.

Others study the estate agents' windows. For the past ten years those who could not find the Dordogne the roof and the price they were looking for have been pressing south. House prices in the Lot have at least quintupled in a decade. A collapsing farmhouse without water or electricity but with a pigeonier, butterfly net and magnificent views over the valley, wooded hills can fetch £15,000 or £20,000. But in spite of the influx, there is no driving through the valley, depopulated and beautiful region without seeing many abandoned farms and barns. Here and there entire villages stand deserted—there is one named Doussoul only a couple of miles from Cahors. A hundred years ago the population of the Lot was 250,000. Today it is 150,000.

One early reason for the flight from the land was the Phylloxera, which in the early century almost finished off the local Cahors wine for ever. This tannin-dark wine was grown when France was Roman Gaul. It was the choice of popes, the favourite wine of Peter the Great, and a staple among the English aristocracy, and drunk by the officers on board French ships on the world trade routes, while the men drank Bordeaux. Such was the competition with Bordeaux, which the Bordelais closed their port to the wine barges to prevent the export of vin de Cahors to England and the Netherlands. Before Phylloxera the valley and rocky limestone causses of the river Lot produced a million bottles a year. By 1939 there was scarcely any.

The renaissance has taken place over the past generation. In 1947 at Parnac, 10 miles west of Cahors, a cooperative was started. The Bordelais closed their port to the wine barges to prevent the export of vin de Cahors to England and the Netherlands. Before Phylloxera the valley and rocky limestone causses of the river Lot produced a million bottles a year. By 1939 there was scarcely any.

Cahors noir—though the modern cooperative product no longer has this blackness—goes exceptionally well with the local and Auvergne cheeses: Cantal, Roquefort, Fourme d'Ambert, in fact any good blue cheese, and the flat flat circular goat's cheese of the Lot known as Cabécou. Neither there are any hardships, except financial, in matching it with the region's "black diamonds"—truffles—or with any other Quercy specialties: foie gras, confit d'oie, confit de canard, and a curiosity about Quercy specialties—plus a formidable appetite. Parts of the menu gastronomique régional (65fr) are more accomplished than the sun, but at least it is all there, or as much as could be considered decent for a single meal. This is almost a caricature of traditional dishes: foie gras, omelette aux cèpes, confit de canard, salade aux noix, Cabécou, and pêche quercy.

as is the lapereau aux pruneaux, and the confits of goose and duck. For lighter appetites, though not that much lighter, there is the freshest foie gras in town, an exquisite omelette aux truffes with a creamy truffle sauce, and a salad of sliced truffles seasoned with pepper, salt and the merest drop—une goutte—of lemon juice and olive oil. Hardly surprisingly, such dishes exist only in the upper price echelons: the menu of Quercy specialties has gone from 40fr to 80fr in five years. The modest 30fr menu will not bring you within sniffing distance of a truffle, and at that price you will eat no better than at a better off one of the town's restaurants such as the Fenselon, further down the boulevard, or the Préfecture, close to the cathedral.

A dozen miles north of Cahors, at St-Médard Catus, Le Girardou offers probably the best value in the Lot, particularly if you are hungry. The cuisine is not specifically regional and varies hardly at all. There is a superb hot soupe de poissons served with croutons and mayonnaise (see there for more details) and in this part of France, tender sweetbreads, and cassolette or quail or a steak grilled over the wood fire. The service is decently slow—allow three hours for a meal—the portions are copious, and the dining room and terrace are usually packed. Sweets are unspectacular but adequate: sorbets and ices, profiteroles, pêche Melba. For any dessert a little out of the ordinary, such as the earl sorbet at La Taverne, where the pears are poached in vin de Cahors and the liquid then used for the sorbet, one should head for—well, La Taverne.

All restaurants in the area offer a menu à la carte of Cahors wine. Almost all have cold, stone-walled dining-rooms converted from traditional Quercy houses, one exception being La Taverne, which was converted from a first station, and another the Agnès, a rectangular glass suntrap high up among the vines seven miles south of Cahors—overlooking the multi-lane traffic buckling along the autoroute to Toulouse. Here the daintily plated regional specialties include the regional truffle croustade (77fr), and in the 70fr menu a brace of truffle-stuffed quail, snails with a walnut sauce, confit de canard and, in view of all that has gone before, a rather fine-filling crêpe de maïs truffée.

The elegant Les Tempeliers is at Le Montat, a village four miles south of Cahors but so totally enclosed in bushy peace that it might be a thousand miles from anywhere. The interior of the Montat is said to number 300 but one would have thought 30 a closer guess, and anyway none is visible. Les Tempeliers has cut roses on the tables, fastidious cooking, and a dozen Cahors wines priced from 20fr to 50fr (ordinaires is 75fr, and there is a reluctant selection from other corners of the nation, and even of neighbouring nations). The regional touch is present but not pressed. There is a worthwhile omelette quercyenne incorporating truffles and fatted goose liver (35fr), and along similar lines, yet even richer, a croustade de truffes au foie gras de canard (70fr). There is also a chef interested enough to escape the usual dull run of desserts with an airy, unregional almond soufflé.

Also elegant, stylish and thoroughly professional is Marco's, two or three miles east of Cahors and within stone-throwing distance of the river Lot. The best bet here is the straightforward grills of meat and fish from the open wood fire, but the restaurant is worth keeping in mind for anyone with time for only one meal in the Lot and a curiosity about Quercy specialties—plus a formidable appetite. Parts of the menu gastronomique régional (65fr) are more accomplished than the sun, but at least it is all there, or as much as could be considered decent for a single meal. This is almost a caricature of traditional dishes: foie gras, omelette aux cèpes, confit de canard, salade aux noix, Cabécou, and pêche quercy.

cynoise. (Best to ask the significance of quercyenne when applied to fruit as in the Lot it varies from chef to chef, some maintaining the fruit in Cahors wine, others sprinkling it with the local cru-de-noix or vielle prune.) The only possible way to ring down the curtain on all this would be to call, with the coffee, for the Quercy digestif of a glass of two or three plums or prunes pickled in eau-de-vie.

Unless sufficient people have by now complained, both Marco's and Les Tempeliers have music, hula, soft, pervasive and piped. Restaurant Donnadieu, or Chez Donnadieu, or possibly merely Donnadieu, not only is without music but carries no indicator that it is even a restaurant. There is no name on or near its walls and no written menu outside or in. On the other hand once you have reached the village of Bach, which is little more than a church and a bundle of old stone houses 17 miles south-east of Cahors (Michelin map 79), it is easy enough to find by following the cooking smells and watching the tables on the terrace. Astonishingly, there is a second restaurant at Bach. This has RESTAURANT written large on the wall and offers country fare similar to that at the Restaurant Donnadieu.

You mount the exterior stone stairway to the terrace, enter the family kitchen and pass into a rather sombre dining-room where the flowers are not arranged roses but oxe-eye daisies plucked from the roadside. Bread and a litre of red wine are set before you, and the compulsory, unvarying farmhouse soup of the Lot—soupe au vermicelle—is brought. The second course is a charcuterie or possibly a quarter of a chicken cooked in the same bouillon which has been presented as soup. The entrée is a cut of pork, beef, lamb or veal—whatever the family Donnadieu happens to be lunching off in the kitchen—with per-haps haricots verts, flageolet or stuffed tomatoes. Next cheese, and finally fruit and coffee. Inclusive of everything but service the bill is 25fr.

Here is the typical farmhouse meal of Quercy, pleasant but substantial, beautifully cooked, with the emphasis on meat. This is exactly the meal which is being served between noon and two o'clock throughout homes in the rural Lot. Should you ask for it there is, of course, Cahors wine, and if you telephone in advance requesting confit d'oie, truffled omelette or whatever, the family will do its best to oblige. The present writer has observed a party of merry nuns finishing their meal with pasta, the golden concoction of multi-layered pastry, apple and rum which is traditional to the region and said to be now dying out. Telephone at least a day in advance should you want to order pasta. It takes a good three hours to make, and a table about the size of a football field for rolling out the pasta. La Taverne, 41 rue Delpach, Cahors. Tel. 352856. Closed November. Monday. Menu 30fr, 60fr, 80fr.

Le Girardou, St-Médard Catus. Tel. 362227. Open every day, lunch and dinner. Out of season closed all day Monday and Tuesday. Menu 25fr, 35fr, 52.50fr. L'Aquitaine, Route Nationale 20, south of Cahors. Tel. 354111. Open every day, lunch and dinner. Closed Wednesday between September 25 and June 15. Menu 25fr, 35fr, 55fr, 70fr.

Les Tempeliers, Le Montat. Tel. 354655. Open every day, lunch and dinner. Closed out of season. Menu 35fr, 45fr, 65fr. Restaurant Donnadieu, Bach. Tel. Vaylats 6 (through operator). Open all year, lunch only. Menu 25fr (including wine). © Times Newspapers Ltd and The Good Food Guide (Consumers' Association and Hodders), 1977. The closing date for reports to be considered for the 1978 Good Food Guide is September 30.

Drink

Go right to the top

The United Kingdom has the most varied and widespread retail outlets for wine in the world, so it seems strange that people still ask about the shops—or merchants they should use. The problem may be a vague feeling that a branch of a retail chain there is an impersonality, perhaps a lack of assurance of quality. Of course, a supermarket or licensed grocer may not have anyone on the spot to consult or to complain to, but a letter to the buyer of the firm should get information and, when necessary, a faulty bottle should be replaced. Indeed, it is often worth contacting the headquarters of the big chains, both to discover the nearest outlet and to ask about any wines in which you are particularly interested; no branch can stock every single wine from the firm's reserves and these days prices and sources of supply change so rapidly that lists are not always available. But even in a small shop depending mainly on "bread and butter" lines you may find counter staff who have been trained in wine as well as salesmanship.

behind them, there will be a buyer of considerable authority plus, sometimes a wine merchant representing the finest lines of the establishment. For example, within the International Distillers and Vintners' group that also includes Peter Dominie, there is Justerini and Brooks, 61 St James's Street, S.W.1, presided over by a Master of Wine.

Any branch of the big chains should willingly give you the address of their headquarters. For Peter Dominie, write to Gilbey House, River Way, Harlow, Essex; for Victoria Wine, to Brook House, Chertsey Road, Woking, Surrey; for Threshers and Mackies, to Snowells of Chelsea, Great North Road, Hatfield, Herts. Augustus Barnett, whose 150th shop is about to open, can give addresses of branches, plus their big list of special wines that can be ordered from any branch within a few days; write to them at North Wood Road, E16.

The organization now called Merchant Vintners, formerly The Independent Wine Merchants' Association Ltd, is of increasing interest. It is owned by 21 firms each of which

must be "family controlled, of reasonable size and respected in their area of operation". Founded in 1965, they originally combined so as to be able to cut costs by making group purchases of spirits, and price advantages being passed on to customers: today, the wines, fine and everyday, are bought by different specialists within the group, but it is worth stressing, each one of the members is still an independent.

The Merchant Vintners firms, many of which have a large number of branches, are: in London, Balls Bros., J. Barnett & Co., Malcolm Cowen Ltd, E. J. Rose & Co. Elsewhere, the members are: Adnams of Southwold, Suffolk; G. E. Bromley of Leicester; Clark Williams of Neath, Glam.; Finkler and Mackie of Manchester, West; Fawcett of London and West; Wines of Sheffield; D. A. Had-dow of Glasgow; S. H. Jones of Banbury; Lay and Wheeler of Colchester; A. Middlemas of Kelso; Morans of Bristol; Morris's Wine Stores of Solihull; A. G. Peters of Blackpool; Laurence Smith and Sons of

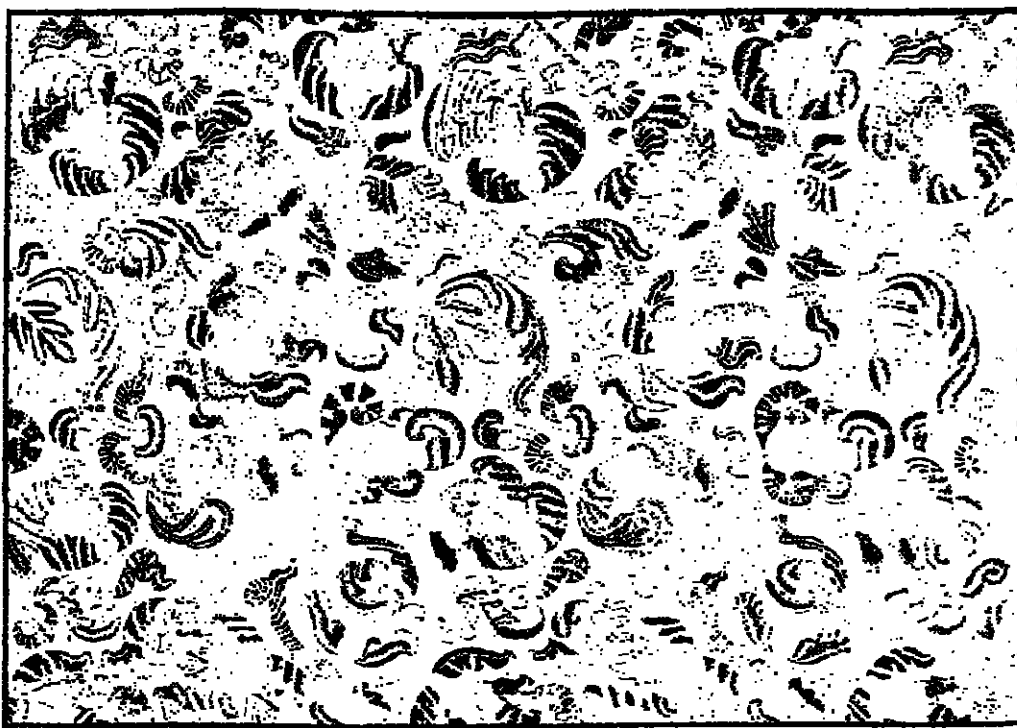
Edinburgh; W. S. Sanderson of Morpeth; Tanners of Shrewsbury and J. Townend of Hull. The secretary is R. Botwood, of Sanderson of Morpeth, Hope and Anchor Brewery, Morpeth, NE61 1SZ who can furnish details of the huge coverage of these firms, whose stocks are imaginative and a translation of the old-style wine merchant's range into today's terms.

Mail order wine buying is a growing and helpful service, suppliers often providing newsletters of bargain offers, with plenty of information. Nor should anyone be content with a single source of supply for wine; no one merchant can satisfy every single need of a wide range of customers and, for the customer who is willing to write or telephone, there will be an interested response to any reports about wines tried and liked from all sources. This all helps the merchant to please the individual, either with suggestions as to classic wines or recommendations as to something really new.

Pamela Vandyke Price

Collecting

Reflections on a crewel world



Rare English crewel-work curtains dating from the late seventeenth century.

The highest bid that I have personally seen left with an auctioneer is £400. I left it with Michael Webb at Sotheby's about eighteen months ago hoping to secure the most beautiful hanging in crewel embroidery I had ever seen. Unfortunately Phillips and Harris of Kensington Church Street, dealers in furniture and the decorative arts, had also seen it and purchased the hanging for one bid above my top limit.

Sotheby's had catalogued it as an eighteenth century but it was a characteristic piece of what used to be known as Jacobean embroidery, for which experts now prefer not to hazard a date more precisely than circa 1680-1720. It was probably a bed hanging for the side of a tester bed, with the conventional tree of life pattern growing from green mound. It is a special attraction lay in bright, unfaded colours, the widely exotic, unimaginable, flowers and fruits growing from the curling stem of the tree, whose stem itself was spotted.

The boom in the antiques market over the past 10 years has made it very difficult to acquire a superb example of anything for as little as £400 (plus one bid!) and I have been meaning to point this out to potential collectors for some time. Not that you are all likely to manage it. Crewel work is in short supply; when hangings do appear at auction they tend to cost in the £300 to £500 range, but anything of special quality, if seen by a knowledgeable dealer, is likely to be bid a good deal higher and presumably sold by him for a lot more again. (Fragments, though, can be had for under £50, if you're lucky.)

Crewelwork or worsted work (as it is often described in old inventories) is a type of embroidery done in wools on linen or cotton twill; in England a mixture of linen and cotton was usually used. While the technique is an ancient one—the Bayeux tapestry is technically crewelwork—it appears hardly to have been used in England until the late seventeenth century. Although the technique was also used in Continental Europe and quickly exported to America from England, English crewelwork of the late seventeenth and early eighteenth century is a unique and special affair. This is primarily a matter of design.

The type of design which I have always thought of as "Jacobean"—it has, of course, got nothing whatever to do with James I which is why this term is now frowned on—comprises writhing blue-green leaves with the optional addition of flowers, fruit and animals. The earliest examples tend to be monochrome and in repeating patterns like earlier embroideries. Then come the marvellous trees of life growing from humpy green mounds, generally scattered with flowers, birds and beasts. Then, as the eighteenth century proceeded, embroiderers moved on to scattered naturalistic flower sprigs within a disciplined border of trailing flowers. These later embroidery

were often worked wholly in chain stitch—the earlier ones having used a wide variety of stitches to give added texture to their leaves and blossoms, satin stitch, long and short, herringbone, stem and chain, speckling, French knots, rope stitch, etc.

The origin of "Jacobean" design lies in a fascinating cross-fertilization of ideas between East and West. In the seventeenth century the East India Company began to import pointed wall hangings, known as palampores, from India. The early examples were painted in white on coloured grounds, especially deep red, and did not prove particularly popular. Accordingly instructions went out from England that "more should be made on white grounds with the branches and flowers to be in colours".

Patterns were sent out from England for the Indian painters to copy and, since English ideas of what Oriental art should be were at that time based on Chinese art, the patterns that were sent out were "in Chinese taste". It should also be remembered that Indian ideas of the seventeenth century had been heavily influenced by the Persian painters summoned to work at the court of the Mogul emperors. By the 1670s the palampores painted in India on indigo cloth from England became immensely popular. There was demand for all the curtains, bed hangings and valances that could be produced.

It was William Morris in the 1870's who was primarily responsible for the revival of interest in "Jacobean" crewelwork. The homely simplicity of embroidery in coarse wools on linen was thoroughly sympathetic to the approach of the arts and crafts movement, while the sinuous forms and exotic vegetation strongly appealed to Morris and his fellow designers. Not only did lady embroiderers take to imitating the late seventeenth century crewelwork, but the Royal School of Needlework, founded in 1873, began to produce it on

a workshop basis. In the following decades similar workshops sprang up all round the country. The passion for crewelwork was still going strong in the 1930's, only beginning to be challenged by the idea of original art embroideries.

Some of this revival crewelwork is very close to its seventeenth century model. It can be very beautiful and collectable in its own right but it can also be confusing for those who, for antiquarian reasons, would prefer to acquire the genuine article. One thing to watch for is the change in the colour of wools with time: the dark blue green which now seems characteristic of early crewelwork began life as a bright emerald green, while the yellows and reds were also virulent and have generally faded. The revival embroiderers imitated the colours they saw in older pieces; if the colours are the same on the front and back of the work this probably indicates a revival piece—the colours have darkened or faded and are still bright at the back this would indicate a genuine early piece.

There are also problems where the piece has been rebacked. This was done throughout the revival period when the twill on which an old piece was sewn had disintegrated; the embroidery would be carefully cut out and sewn down on a strong new backing. If part of the embroidery had also gone, this may have been copied and the reworked piece sewn into place with the older part. It should be borne in mind that this kind of restoration is now very expensive; it may cost you more to buy an old piece in poor condition and have it refurbished than to buy an old piece in good condition.

Perhaps as a result of the over-enthusiasm of the revivalists, crewelwork seems to have gone out of fashion in England from the 1940s to the 1970s. Interest is now reviving along with the new taste for seventeenth-century oak, pewter and pottery, but in the meantime a large proportion of such crewelwork as had survived seems to have been sold to America.

I spent a day trying to find some for sale in London with only very modest success. Mayocras in Jermyn Street was the only shop with a range of pieces on offer and as a matter of principle they did not wish to discuss prices. They had a set of four late seventeenth-century curtains with a repeating design of "exotic" leaves, tendrils and branches mainly in blue-green, with a little brown and mulberry. They bought the set at Christie's, South Kensington, last summer for £750 and will presumably be asking a bit more than this.

Then there was a workbag embroidered with bright colourful sprigs of flowers and dated ably a bed-back) embroidered with scrolling bunches of grapes within a floral trail border and a ravishing pelmet of exotic flowers embroidered on linen unmarked with cotton 1735, an earlier hanging (probably Mr Mayocras suggests may have been embroidered in Burgos for the English market).

Mayocras specializes in textiles and always has crewelwork in stock, but this is nowadays quite a feat and you must expect to pay for it. Otherwise I only succeeded in finding one seventeenth-century oak stool covered in a fragment of bright (and beautiful) early crewelwork at Jellicoe and Sampson in the Brompston Road, priced at £500 while Mallett's Bourdon House (in Davies Street, off Berkeley Square) told me they had some indifferent re-backed curtains in store which it really was not worth my while to look at.

C. John of South Audley Street also specializes in textiles pre-1800 but currently has no crewelwork in stock. Two people told me that S. Frances of Knightsbridge currently had some crewelwork but as they were closed for the summer holiday I had no way of ascertaining whether this was true.

If you are prepared to wait and watch, there are always auctions. The sales of textiles and costume at Christie's, South Kensington, are the best hunting ground, but Sotheby's at Bond Street and Belgraveia (for revival pieces) regularly include embroidery in their furniture sales, while Phillips hold specialist sales of lace, textiles and costume.

Several books have been written about crewel embroidery though they tend to be written from the point of view of the practical embroiderer. There is Joan Edwards's *Crewel Embroidery in England* (1975), M. J. Davis's *The Art of Crewel Embroidery* (1962) and Erica Wilson's *Crewel Embroidery* (1964). The best place to get your eye in is the Victoria and Albert Museum. They have several pieces on view in their textile study room. There is more in store which you can see by special appointment with the textile office well in advance—hangings take up a lot of space and are thus difficult to display.

The Museum's *Catalogue of English Domestic Embroidery of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries* by John L. Nevins repays study but it was published in 1938 and is now out of print.

Geraldine Norman

THE SUNDAY TIMES and magazine

IN TOMORROW'S 96-PAGE COLOUR MAGAZINE

Wonders of the World

The start of a major new series in which distinguished men have each been asked to choose their own seven wonders of the world. Lord Clark is the first writer and his choice ranges from the Pyramids to Concorde.

IN TOMORROW'S WEEKLY REVIEW

The Wolf Children

First of two extracts from Charles Maclean's new book which examines the authenticity of the wolf children of Mindapore—the two girls reared by animals in the Bengal jungle more than 50 years ago.

Sunday isn't Sunday without The Sunday Times

John Neville at the National

The good news is that John Neville makes his debut at the National Theatre on Monday night. The bad news is that he is there for four performances only, and those in the minor role of the "Bachelors' Days".

Since the beginning of 1972, with the exception of one brief Broadway season in *Shakespeare*, John Neville has worked entirely and exclusively in Canada. In that time there has grown up almost a generation of British theatregoers who need to be reminded that Neville was throughout the 1950s our leading young Shakespearean, and that a decade later he was the man who pioneered the new Nottingham Playhouse. There was indeed a time when he seemed all set for not for the National itself then at the very least for the directorship of Chichester, and meeting Neville in London in 1972 I could go no further forward. I'd led the vic through the 1950s, first with Burton and later more or less on my own, after he went off to Hollywood, but I'd been in an uneasy sort of middle ground on which I was old for Hal and too young for Lear. Then came Nottingham and the excitement of getting properly with a young company was very great indeed. But that all ended so unappetisingly (Neville resigned in 1967 after a highly publicised disagreement with the Board) and the directors behaved so shabbily that I was unwilling to try my luck with another English critic theatre.

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right away. Not that I had any offers anyway: the publicity made sure of that. In Nottingham I was fighting a mediocre and lacklustre bunch of city men; in Edmonton my board is made up of rather more successful businessmen who are therefore inclined to be both happier and less jealous as individuals, which makes them a lot easier to deal with.

It is perhaps just understandable, though I believe unforfeitable, that after the Nottingham fracas Neville was not offered the directorship of another regional theatre in Britain: what is harder to comprehend is that he was at that time approached by neither the RSC nor Olivier's National as an actor. Instead he drifted during the late sixties into some profitable but faintly unsatisfactory television work, and found himself in 1972 more than willing to consider an offer to go to Canada just for a month to direct at the National Arts Centre in Ottawa. From there Winnipeg invited him to play Brack in a local *Hedda Gabler* and as soon as that closed Ottawa invited him back for *Prospero in the Storm*. It didn't take Neville long to realize that the offers he was getting as an actor and director on the other side of the Atlantic were considerably better than anything he'd recently been getting in England, and when therefore the city of Edmonton in Alberta asked him to take over a roughly converted Salvation Army Citadel with no wing space, no flies and only three hundred seats he gleefully accepted the challenge.

"As I was already working in Canada my appointment in Edmonton didn't cause the kind of Britisher go home furor that Robin Phillips had to cope with in Stratford, Ontario: I was already regarded as sort of half-Canadian and I was more than willing to settle there."

Though he keeps a house in Norfolk as a summer home and a base for his now grown-up children, Neville moved to Edmonton and within two years there built up not only a young Canadian company cap-

able of playing (this season) everything from *Ayckbour's Bedroom* to *Macbeth* of which the National have given him the first North American rights to *fit the Deck* but also a brand new arts complex containing two theatres, a cinema and classrooms for evening courses in drama. But, predictably, at any rate to those of us who have always believed that Mr Neville is only really happy in a theatre once he's got the builders in, he is once again moving on. Next year he abandons the newly constructed delights of Edmonton for Halifax, Nova Scotia, where there is a 500-seat ex-vauville theatre now fallen on hard times.

"People in Edmonton think I'm crazy to leave having just got the new building open, but I want to move on precisely for that reason: there's not so much of a challenge there now, whereas Halifax needs the director. I'll be interested to see if I can write it off in the first year there. Then maybe we can think about a new theatre. I've already missed two (Nottingham and Edmonton) and I'd quite like to go for the hat trick."

At the risk of sounding like his wife, I asked if Neville had ever thought of settling down: "Not really, though there's an old people's home in Norfolk I'd quite like to retire to: but the marvellous thing about Canada, you know, is that nobody ever stays long in the same place. The Canadian actor always has his bags packed, and I like that: the problem of course is that we lack actors of real stature and there's a limit to the length of time that a player of my age (52) can go on working with 20-year-olds. That's one reason I'm so glad Peggy Ashcroft is coming out to us again" (she and Neville did *Dear Liar* in Edmonton two years ago) "because Canada needs her like I can taste her. I think I may have given some good performances there, and in parts no-one in Britain would ever have cast me for, but there's no denying that the Canadian theatre is in need of European

guests even if their Equity is at present very unhappy about the situation at Stratford, Ontario."

The Halifax project means that for the next three years at least we're unlikely to see Neville again in this country: beyond that, while not precisely ruling out a return to Britain, he seems not exactly over-eager to come home.

"What has happened to me in Canada has been a marvelous series of accidents, and I'm proud of what I've done there: I was able to give Edmonton its first *Pinter*, its first Ben Jonson and indeed its first sight of Peggy Ashcroft. I've also commissioned and staged more new Canadian work than any other major regional company director out there. If the National or the

Kadavar Government having decided that the Council of Europe was a counter-revolutionary organization—which it is—and that by staging its infamous "Exhibition in Berlin" the Council had contravened the technical status of the city—which it has not—the Hungarian Philharmonic Orchestra did not open the complementary Berlin Festival with Beethoven's third piano concerto and Duke Bluebeard's Castle. Out, too, went the Concerto for Orchestra, Kodaly's *Peacock Variations* and two theatre companies from Poland.

Berlin has seen it all before, and the sad thing was that everyone seemed to have forgotten about the Hungarian Philharmonic by the time the Berlin band, under Eugen Jochum, sent the brass Amens and Alekseyev's Hindemith's *Musik der Mitternacht* ripping round the congested Expressionist terraces of the Philharmonie. It seemed as grand and sonorous a way to start a Festival centred on music written between 1918 and 1933 as any, particularly when earlier in the concert the three versions from Pfitzner's *Palestrina* (1917) had sounded bewitchingly like Kalmann's *Countess Maritza* (1924), and also being revived this month at the Theatre des Westens, in place of *Seidenstrumpf* by the Porter. Somebody chickened out there.

Hindemith, Bartok (what's left of him) and Stravinsky are merely the most established pillars of an enterprise which, between now and October 12, is devoting a kind of cultural archaeology to the performing arts of the period. This is a far harder thing to do than to hang finished pictures or dis-

play sensible furniture for, with some notable exceptions by the three giants above, plus Prokofiev, Wozzeck, *Turandot*, *Die Dreigroschenoper* and Mahagonny, the Westens were distinguished by a series of masterpieces than by restless experiment and interpreters of genius: Furtwängler, Reinhardt, Veidt.

Dual honouring is not enough, and anything more academic than the Schiller Theatre's new staging of Gerhart Hauptmann's *Die Weber* would be hard to imagine except perhaps its audiences. The Schaubühne is still the best company in Berlin and their evening of short farces by Georges Courteline (1858-1929), though not directly linked to this Festival, makes all the points about human behaviour laboured over by Brecht and his contemporaries: the most men will suffer anything if the money is right, for instance—at a third of the length with a far sharper wit. We should explore Corneille here. The Schaubühne's first Shakespeare—*As You Like It*—opens next week.

Many of the liveliest performers of the immediate, ephemeral effects of cabaret and revue—Margo Lion and Mischa Spoliansky, Dietrich's old partners, returned for an evening, and so will Greta Keller and her exciting, Liederabend with a Schubert accompanist, in which the brevity of Eisler's songs, in particular, delivered with a burnished power by Miss Maier, rang oddly round the

Brenner. In the first two instances above all she did an exceptionally good job, uncovering in the one set of lethal naivety, in the other a hard practicality which Laing's public image normally conceals. If the third interview was less easy and penetrating, it was perhaps because the public figure at the head of the public corporation is not so good a subject for this intimate and individual technique. But I would like more Brenner interviews and at greater length.

Where it seems to me a mere 10 minutes is exact occurs in Patric Dickinson's *Time for Verse* which is the first regular poetry programme on this network I can recall. Last week we had some Keats, some Blunden and a fine bit of Auden in a very nicely balanced programme well read by Sean Barrett. It made a pause, a kind of glade or clearing before the denser sound of the concert following.

With all this, even if it does resemble the ingredients of an *hors d'oeuvre*, I really do not think we Radio 4 listeners have too much reason to complain. It is not as if we never get a solid meal either: *Medical World* has been fascinating; the only complaint I have against the first part of *Landlord or Tenant* is that such an examination of the roots of the Irish problem is somewhat overdue.



John Neville at the National

The Ordeal of Gilbert Pinfold

Royal Exchange, Manchester

Irving Wardle

No enemy of Evelyn Waugh ever anatomized him with the ruthless surgery of his own account in *Gilbert Pinfold*; and beyond its confessional aspect, the book is a classic statement on the traps that await the over-rewarded young artist in middle age.

It is one of the most tempting and treacherous of his novels for the adaptor; and Ronald Harwood's stage version, from the crotchety hero's ominous radio interview in his secluded country residence to his nightmare health crisis, succeeds beyond all my expectations.

As Pinfold is played by one actor, the play has to sacrifice the book's tension between the paranoid central character and the lucid comic intelligence that corrects his delusions. Also there is no disguising the fact that Pinfold's persecution fantasies are imaginatively inferior to the social comedy and self-portraiture, no matter how faithfully they reflect Waugh's own experience.

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Robert Morley will present his own one man

was a study of Reti's writings that gave me the clue as to how I could improve my understanding of chess. Using his ideas, I endeavored to dissect the games of the great players and tried to understand what they were aiming at. I remember that my first object was to study the games of Paul Morphy and that, after devoting a couple of years to this task, went on to examine the games of Capablanca about which, in fact, I was later on to write a book.

This, in my opinion, is the best as it is the easiest way of improving one's chess. In the last few years I have given some weekend courses and have found that far and away the best method of improving the understanding of chess is to contrast it to chess played by those who attend to the game as a hobby with the play of one great player.

Last year, for example, I could

would give Black a won position.

15 O-Q3
16 ... K-NP

A deadly blow that weakened Black's Kingside beyond repair.

16 K-N1 K-N4 ch 17 K-N1, N-N5
18 O-O2

Showing fine personal judgment; it is the Bishop not the Rook that is the mainstay of White King's defence.

19 K-N1 P-O5 20 K-N1
21 B-N2 K-N2 ch

22 1. K-K1, B-Kt ch 21. K-R2
K-R8 ch and if 21. K-R2, Q-O2; 22. QR-B1, Q-R5; 23. K-R3, B-R3 and Black wins.

21 ... O-O2

White resigns. For if 22. Q-KB2, 23. B-N3 ch 24. B-N2
24. R-R, B-K1; 25. Q-B, Q-K7 mate.

Harry Golombek

Weekend

SHOP AROUND

Sheila Black



I love cookshops, as must be obvious, and the entire country seems to be full of first-class ones, so much so that visitors to Britain must now be putting us to the test of the lands of gourmets. Until about a year ago, I had not really thought of Jaeggi as a cookshop, but almost entirely as a purveyor of little copper pots and pans along with some excellent stainless steel cookware. Now I have learned that you can really stock a kitchen from there, whether you want little elasticated covers for juicers or hotel-style catering equipment.

Not that they have stopped the old family business of genuine copper pans and cooking dishes—far from it since they have enlarged the factory at Stramies to make more of it. Copper costs a lot of money but the pans are not as expensive in comparison with cheaper materials as of yore because, as copper prices fluctuate, the costs of so many other materials climb steadily. To give a small selection of pans is to sell Jaeggi short but that is exactly what I must do. Here you see

their super little 7in sauté pan at £14.54 (plus 86p postage). The deep 8in saucepan is £33.80 plus £1.16 and the ice cream bombe is £8.73 plus 66p. The curved copper fish is £5.92 (40p). The omelette pan which will make the best omelettes you can find, is 7in diameter and costs £10.15 (56p). Some of my own favourites cannot be here because of the disciplines of space. I like casseroles which are equally good as saucepans and sell in varying depths: caramel pans which really do get up so much heat that even modern sugar, which is hard to caramelize, does well; little milk and other saucepans; large preserving pans; those mixing bowls to tuck under the arm and to hold by a loop.

The mixing bowl may rarely be used but the lovely dome should be hung on the wall to reflect the room in its domed, deeply coppery surface because it is a thing of real beauty. The preserving pan is lovely, too, even if you never preserve. Copper lasts more or less for

ever. Many pans have to be retinned but Jaeggi does that for you and it is not necessary as often as you might think. In fact, copper that is used every day and subjected to great heat should not need tinning or retinning but copper that is going to be left, especially when damp or under damp conditions, would go green. So always buy from experts and consult experts when you buy copper—the Swiss Family Jaeggi have been in the business too long to give anything but the soundest advice.

While admiring the copper, be not afraid of cleaning it. There is an excellent preparation in a coppery-coloured plastic tube called Spring Copper Cleaner. It sells in leading stores and shops that stock Dexam Imports, usually at about £1.60, but you can find it at Jaeggi for £1.50 (postage 30p). Royal Normandy is another good copper cleaner. Try to call at Jaeggi if you can but order by post without fear from The Mail Order Department, Leon Jaeggi and Sons, 232 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0BL.

The Times special offer competition

Our Times pillowcases were won by Sylvia Adams, of Hangleton Valley, Hove, Sussex. She not only knew that The Times changed its front page from classified advertising to news on May 3, 1966, but she actually had kept her copy of that day as part of her personal landmarks of history. Unwilling to cut her Times, she worried about whether or not to send us a rather well-designed postcard with the cuttings stuck on to it. Finally she did, taking the old date from a page of Business News but using the Times title from a current paper.

After telling me that she teaches history and general subjects she said rather engagingly that she had already had two letters published in The Times but had been, unluckily the last time, which would not deter her from trying again. She added that she was thrilled to win this competition, and I hope she was interested in the historical account that went with the description of The Times sheets and pillowcases. Miss Adams added that she had been lucky in being able to get her copy of The Times every day but did admit that "she rarely has time to read it until some time after publication".

Thank you, all you thousands who entered, and congratulations to Miss Adams.



Drawings by Anthony Simmonds

Enchanting, embroidered boxes from China are now at Allans, that superb fabric shop at 56 Duke Street, London, W1 (between Oxford Street and Grosvenor Square). In velvet or silk of many colours, lined with silk or contrast velvet, the boxes can be square, oval, heart-shaped, round, or anything that takes the maker's fancy. Some are nests, with smaller boxes inside the outer box and some have unusual or secret fastenings. All would be the perfect container for precious gifts or could just be gifts in themselves, with a sincere and affectionate note in the innermost box. No two are alike, even when similar.

Oblong boxes in a set of three are around £12.50; heart-shaped boxes in two's are about the same price and the larger boxes, square or in other shapes but without inner boxes, are about £9.50. They can be ordered by post but you would have to discuss them by telephone first to see what is currently available from a goodly stock at present. If you can visit, do, despite the fear that you might be tempted to buy more than one or two because they are so attractive. There are few velvets, mostly silks which are fragile-looking without being fragile. Ideal to send with the first love letter in the hope she or he may keep the rest that follow.

Handmade patchwork boxes are also pretty and quaint, at Jacksons of Piccadilly and Sloane Street, and at Liberty of Regent Street in London, hopefully filtering into stores out of London soon. In mainly pastel colours with delicate floral patterns, these are hexagonal and measure from about four to seven inches across from one side to its opposite while prices are roughly £5 to £15 according to size. These, too, can be posted but personal viewing is recommended. Order from either Jacksons or Liberty, but please enclose 40p to cover post and package. Any queries on colour whatever she or he may keep the rest.



Patchwork is dainty at Rosemary's Place. She sells her work at the county shows or by mail from High Street, Southam, Leamington Spa CU33 0HA (Southam 2649). Rosemary will send you leaflets showing a circular tablecloth with little patchwork motifs near the hem on the hanging drapes which

start at about £9.95; bedspreads with scattered patchwork rosettes from £38.95; full patchwork bedspreads with a border and lining from £19.95; dinner mats, cushions, teacosies, napkins and even patchwork covers for the food mixer or toaster.

Besides the obvious and less obvious household articles, Rosemary makes patchwork clothes—caftans or overdresses in printed fabrics and velvet from £15.95 or aprons from £7.95, very pretty for hostesses. Her long skirts and boleros, her lined pochette bags or shoulder bags and her little brimmed hats can be demurely floral or smartly black and white as you

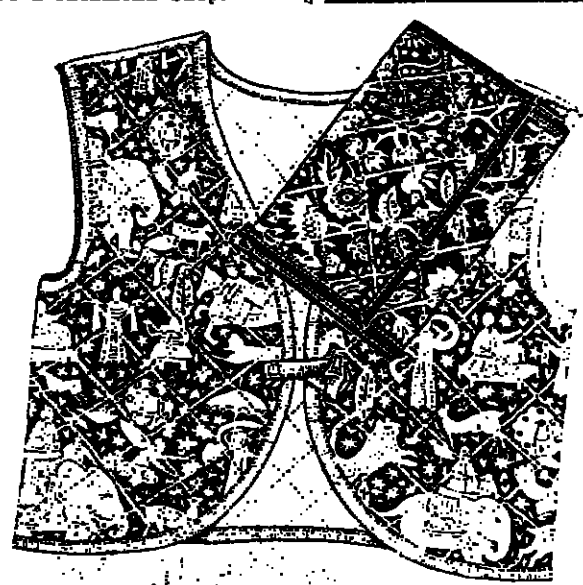
will. Whatever you choose, they will be original and well finished so that you will love wearing them and showing them off. Boleros are from about £15 or waistcoats, very sweet for the young, from £1 more. Long skirts are £22.95 and all are lined. Velvet waistcoats are smart and warm for men and

women at around £19.95, scarves are also unisex at 75p each and a pochette bag like the one in our drawing is £1.45 while the little hat is £3.95.

Send for Rosemary's leaflets then telephone for a chat about your individual colour choices, likes or dislikes.



Flights of fancy can be as expensive as fancy allows, and fancy has few limits or disciplines. Darts experts are, however, fanatical about their sport, and their darts are a thing of beauty. They are made of silver, gold or platinum filigree. These slender, tapering, precision darts, which are photographed here all as the treble "20" band, where they should be. The flights, no longer feathers on any experienced thrower's weapons, are always plastic these days and they can be renewed frequently as they slot into the top of the dart barrel—here they naturally carry the familiar Silver Jubilee symbol. They contain 48 grammes of silver and are both polished and lacquered with the Jubilee year signs. They cost £45 the set of three and look rather lovely if darts are your fancy. The 18-carat gold set (84 grammes of gold) is £900 and the platinum (110g) is £1,500. Just the thing for special champion presentations but, before it or any people



of circumstances, especially in dig—One of his latest gadgets is a rather luxurious-looking version of the old hand or pocket watch. This one is not rechargeable, as so many are, but runs on short solid fuel sticks that can be lit with a match so that the warmer can be taken anywhere at any time.

The hand-warmer itself is a small, snap-shut, click-open case rather like a small cigarette case measuring about 4 1/2 in by 2 1/2 in, covered in a velvety fabric in dark royal blue. Inside it is a furry, fleecy filling which is burnproof, held in place by a steel ring. You light one of the flatish, grey solid fuel sticks supplied with the "Hot" and, when burned like a cigarette to about a 1/4 in from one end, you lay the stick in the "Hot" snap it shut and let it warm up. For outdoor sporting types to keep hand or hands warm at horse, shooting, fishing or similar meetings, for spectators who have to hang about for ages when the weather freezes, for the old or disabled, especially if confined

to wheel chair; and with arthritic or rheumatic and fairly useless hands; for local warmth anytime. The heat, though positive and comforting, is always gentle and insulated so that it can be comfortably held or placed against parts of back or neck that ache without ever being too hot. Clearly it is hot in a pocket than out of it but it is warm out in the two hands. It lives in a little velvety bag with drawstring top so that you can hang it inside the jacket if you stitch in a strategic button.

The complete set of "Hot" case and 12 solid fuel sticks costs £2.65 plus 20p postage etc. or you can buy two sets for £5.20 post free if you want to warm both hands in two separate pockets. Spare fuel packs are 65p plus 10p and the address is: Mister Lewis, 82

High Street, Walthamstow, London E17 7LD. Each fuel stick burns for eight hours, by the way, but you can stop it half-way and start again.

The torch you see illustrated here looks like a simple, traditional torch. Rather space-age design but then it ought to be since it is a space-age torch, the first that is rechargeable by direct sunlight as well as by domestic electricity. Silvery, like the cinematic space-age suit, it is a rather dashing shape and therefore a good one to show to people before you give them the punch-line about running on the sun's power.

Made by Acculux, who produced the world's first rechargeable torch, they tell me, and I do remember it when very young, this is yet another first.

The altered plastic shape sits comfortably in the hand and the beam is bright after normal charging through the nickel-cadmium power pack accumulators. A full charge needs about nine hours of strong sunlight. Increase the exposure time when the sun is weak—it will even charge to

some extent under cloudy conditions or electric light. It with-stands high temperatures and tropical conditions and it just cannot be overcharged, by sun or by electricity. Fully charged, it gives 11 hours of light. Very useful for periodic use, for hikers, climbers, motorists and weekenders who arrive when the country or seaside hideaway is dark. Leave it out near a window for charging between uses, on the back seat of the car, or hung from a brasscup or other convenient hook. It is about 5 1/2 in long with a carrying strap attached.

The price is the only thing you might dislike but what can you expect for a modern achievement of technology? It is £37 plus 30p by post only from Mister Lewis, supplier of the hand-warmer.

There are some more pretty labels sold for home-made jams, sold direct by Thame Labels, Wellington Street, Thame, Oxfordshire OX9 3AD at £1 for 40 labels. The space for the name is surrounded by little coloured fruits.

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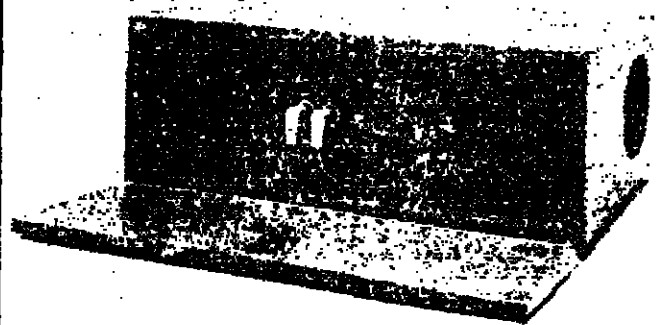
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Great Tom, master of the great English art of moderation

We English pride ourselves on our moderation. Foreigners and fanatics prefer to describe the quality as 'restraint', the stolidity of puddings, or something worse. Whatever you call it, the English liking for the middle of the road for the past three and a half centuries has encouraged better government in Great Britain than has been available elsewhere in the Constitutional. Chaos, incorporated that we call, for short, the earth. We have had no despotism, little repression, no revolution, and not much blood in the streets.

The arch-philosopher-statesman of triumph who exemplified this useful English idiosyncrasy for moderation in his politics as well as his writings, was that Niagara of erudition and common sense of the centre, Thomas Babington Macaulay, Great Tom. The heroes of his *History of England* and essays, William III and George Savile, Marquis of Halifax, were classic trimmers, who protected the sensible middle ground of politics against the doctrinaire zeal of night and left.

Not just his writing, but Macaulay's whole life was devoted to the proposition that history should serve politics by teaching us how to maintain a moderate, constitutional régime, in which liberty and order are preserved, each balanced against the other, and neither promoted to the neglect of the other.

Once the extremists of right or left are allowed to take over, according to Macaulay, enthusiasm leads inevitably to despotism or anarchy. And despotism in turn provokes anarchy; and vice versa. The National Front and the Trotskyite bully-boys are each other's unwitting friends and accomplices. Twisted and twisted, the face of the unacceptable face of British politics.

Charles I tried to govern the men of the seventeenth century as despotically as if they had been men of the sixteenth century; and therefore all his talents and virtues did him no good. The French aristocracy resisted moderate reform in 1783 that they were unable to resist revolution in 1789.

Macaulay's reasonable philosophy of consensus of men of good will at times looks unfashionable. The fanatics and zealots are always trying to come out from their private and similar Caves of Adullam. It is therefore a timely coincidence that Macaulay's first book, which was never published, has just been discovered by Joseph Hamburger a century and a half after it was written by the rising young Macaulay. It was planned as an instant history



of the Revolution in France of 1830, including the immediate background, written in 1830 and 1831. The portion that has been found made an analysis of the Napoleonic regime from the collapse of the Empire to the Hundred Days. In it Macaulay worked out what was to become the ruling idea of his life: that only a moderate society, which allows an optimum coexistence of liberty and order, can preserve us from a perpetual oscillation between anarchy and disorder. The book was never published because of a series of accidents and jealousies. The young Macaulay was diverted into politics, the government, and the history of England. But at some stage somebody pulled proofs of the surviving pages, and preserved the unfinished history before the type was distributed. These pages have been rediscovered after a long and circuitous search. The search ended in the archive of Longmans at the University of Reading. Longmans will now, at last, publish the first book by the master historian of moderation, which is as timely now as when he wrote it.

Here he is on the English revolutionaries:

"No classical allusion, no general theory of politics, affected them so much as their own old and familiar words, Magna Carta, habeas corpus, trial by jury, privilege, parliament. They never took the trouble to enquire whether liberty was the inalienable right of men; they were content to know that it was the lawful birthright of Englishmen. Their social contract was no fiction. It was an extant on the original parchment, sealed with the wax which had been affixed at Runnymede, and attested by the noble names of the Maricalls and Fitzherberts. Thus our ancestors carried into rebellion the feeling of legitimacy; and even in the act of innovating, appealed to ancient prescription."

Philip Howard

● We have been asked to make the following points on the shark fishing article which appeared on July 16. Conrad Voss Bark indicated that my wife and I catch shark on lines of 20lb or perhaps 50lb strength. In fact, we use lines of 15lb breaking strain, and the trout fly rods we use would not even stand that strain in playing the fish. It is probable that we exert no more than 5 to 7lb of pull on the fish.

It is precisely because of the very gentle pull that the shark behave in what, to other fishermen who use heavy tackle, is a most uncharacteristic way, and their acrobatics and indeed acrobatics make the sport so very exciting.

I have been given to understand that over the years, something over 100,000 shark have been taken from the English Channel by boats from the south of Devon and Cornwall. Certainly, sharks have been heavily depleted for whereas at the end of the 1940s we were able to find plenty of shark off Polperro, a bare mile out from the port, today one has to go 12 miles out and fish are scarce even there.

A. D. P. Tallents

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*Please let us know if you would like your gift used for a particular purpose.

When you have been singing for 50 years, it is usually very hard to keep up with your past reputation. For Bing Crosby, it is much more a question of slight amazement that he can do anything at all—and considerable appreciation when he discovers that he can.

Bing, of course, was never one of those entertainers who went around screaming "I'm the greatest". To a show business world brought up on being able to feel the bricks vibrate in the street, he introduced the nice-and-easy approach that for so long was rather deprecatingly called crooning. True, Rudy Vallee and Russ Colombo possibly did it first, but it was Crosby who made it an internationally-accepted style.

As long ago as 1961, he was forecasting another four to five years for himself as a singer and no more. Five years after that, he was conceding that his voice was going—so unlike Al Jolson, his first inspiration, who he said sang better in his late 60s just before his death than at any other time.

Eight years after that, he thought he was dying from a lung infection and so did almost everyone else. Earlier this year, he had a serious fall that set the obituary writers sharpening pencils. But next week he goes to Preston and then on to Manchester before opening at the London Palladium on September 26.

If an impromptu rendering of "Sometimes I'm Happy" with his wife Kathryn at a reception to launch the tour is anything to go on, he is singing better than he has done for at least 10 years. His latest albums sound a lot more

rhythmic than they did in the '60s.

But I sounded a lot better 30 years ago," he says. "The voice was higher." At that time, he was turning out new records every week, making films with Bob Hope and starring in his own radio show. Hope and he would kid each other about their wealth—usually saying how rich and mean the other guy was.

Today Bing says: "I think Fred MacMurray is the richest man in Hollywood and Bob Hope is second. I'm about tenth—and falling fast."

The blue eyes twinkled and he looks considerably less than his 73 years, although he walks with the suggestion of a stoop and looks much smaller than you would ever have imagined in those Road films. He doesn't kid anyone that he is "falling fast" in any direction at all.

The morning I met him, he had recorded four new numbers for a British label in two hours. "In the old days, we used to record three numbers in four hours. Today, the equipment is so much better and I think the musicians are, too. They are more alert these days." But you can't be in a position to find that our unless you're pretty good a performer, too.

He would like to make more films—"if the right part comes along; one I could handle, and with good people, good actors, good music, I'd always be asked to do cameo roles, you know like Fred Astaire has, but I've not liked the films. They always seem to strike me as a bit dirty."

Bing keeps abreast of modern movies, some of which he says are "too salacious". But he thought Rocky



Network, and Silver Streak actor was a pretty loose description. Actors are people like Olivier, Michael Caine, Redford, Brando... I never did anything like that."

Although he won an Oscar for *Going My Way* and attracted the plaudits of critics for straight parts in *The Country Girl* and *Little Boy Lost*, he won't accept that he has ever been an actor. "I've always played myself in those 70-odd films. Calling me an

would love to play at your National Theatre in Shakespeare," she said. She has recently starred in "Arms and The Man" and other Shaw plays.

Bing is now working on a book—a sort of David Nye type reminiscences of the "people I've met—people on the golf course, people who are lovable and eccentric". He is at the scribbling-notes stage.

He still plays a lot of golf and his interest in racing extends to having a couple of brood mares of his own. He has no infallible systems to offer—apart from taking advantage of information.

"You can beat a race, but you can't beat racing. I'll catch up on you." Compulsive gamblers must go broke, he believes. Which is just as well he stuck to entertaining.

There are so many talented groups about today and probably a thousand people who are really very, very good. The only thing that stops them from getting anywhere is that they won't diversify enough. I used to do ballads, country, and western songs, operettas. I did recitations and sang with small groups and I sang with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir and all the big bands. You need to vary your repertoire."

His repertoire, he says, would present a great deal of work for a professional archivist. He has rooms full of clippings, every one of his movies, video cassettes of all his television shows and almost all his 5,000 recordings—although he doesn't have as many as his number one fan, a man living on the Isle of Wight.

His work has, of course, spanned the generations. One of the most popular of his

times is with his son Harry, a doer of Irving Berlin's *Play A Simple Melody*. "Twenty-five years ago he was performing it with Gary, his son of his previous marriage. Gary is today a television actor."

Kathryn Crosby has turned upside down the pessimistic forecasts many people made when they married 20 years ago. She is more than 30 years his junior and by all accounts they are extremely happy. As a married nurse, she has been in on his recent illnesses from very close quarters.

As a patient, he is the very best and the very worst. When things are very bad, he is a saint—and tells me a lot of dirty stories about show business in the old days, which always sound a lot better than discussing lung cancer. When he just has a mild fever, he shouts: "I'll have you disbarred!" She doesn't take him very seriously. She knows how good he can be as a performer.

He has also varied his output. In London, he made a television special for Lew Lipton's company, only to run into last-minute contract problems. Bing's network insists on him working only for them for three months before doing a big show in the States. Special coming up in just three months. But it was sorted out. "Lord Grade can move mountains," he said.

Of course, Bing Crosby can do a bit. In 1957, due to a bad cold, he was that American writer put it at the time of a New York show: "It's your life passing before your eyes."

Michael Freedland

90 today, the pioneer doctor who taught women about themselves

How Helena Wright overcame being born too rich

Dr Helena Wright, a doctor before the First World War, a pioneer of the birth control movement, teacher, writer, is 90 today. Her life has contained many backgrounds, and several careers. "My sister and I had the great misfortune to be rich children. We were very, very bored—and our parents' usual idea was governess after governess, though when Madame Froebel came to London and started her first school we were two of her first pupils. I remember we enjoyed it—large, extremely light room with large windows and all the furniture small, and the things we were given to do were all active. Then we went to school in Queen's Gate. I can't remember anything about that at all."

"My father was Polish, a financial genius who was always changing his job—as soon as one succeeded he got bored, sold out and started another. Among other things he built the Apollo Theatre. Walking up Rupert Street he had noticed a boarded up site in Shaftesbury Avenue—an oddly shaped site that no one could do anything with. "So my father built a pub, a theatre and a shop on the site, and the theatre opened in 1901. He managed it himself, but that's another story."

She went, in 1902, to the Ladies' College, Cheltenham, about the time that her parents were divorcing, during the last 18 months of Miss Beale's reign. "I was very happy there, caused no trouble at all. Miss Beale was a genius—had no rules, with 1,000 girls, no rules at all except one—no talking in the corridors. There was a lot of proper behaviour going to be a book starts to curl up early. And how was the book curling up? In a very surprising way. At the age of 12 I had to lead."

"After a year or so my mother came to Cheltenham and bought a house, and we lived as day girls for the next five years."

"In 1904 my mother was reading the paper and said: 'Would you like to go to the Louvre to see the World Exhibition?' We were used to her passion for travelling but it meant missing some weeks of

the summer term and some of the autumn term." The scale was grand—they planned to go right across America, visit Vancouver, and return across Canada. Miss Beale, when asked for permission, said to Dr Wright's mother: "Sensible woman you are! They'll learn much more in America than they would in two terms here."

"In 1904 you could go out to Quebec on the Cunarder for £13 single fare and come back to Liverpool for another £13. So they travelled by train, stage coach, on mules down to the Grand Canyon—she remembers dipping a handkerchief in the river at the bottom of the Canyon for her mother and finding it dry immediately. Seattle, Vancouver, right across the Rockies in the observation car, giving ideas to a man whose job it was to name the mountains having been through the Bible and the canyons of England had run out of ideas. That couldn't happen now!"

"Well, Ellie, what are you going to do? came the question. As I, without the slightest hesitation, said, I am going to be a doctor. I don't know why, but if there is anything in a vocation which is

somehow conveyed to the person, there was the perfect example. The family didn't take it seriously. My father thought it absurd. Why didn't I marry a rich banker? I thought it a horrible fate."

"At medical school we were 13 oddities. You had to be pretty odd." She studied the dean of the School, the best woman surgeon of her time, Miss Aldrich Blake, and said to herself: "I am going to be a friend of hers"—and she was. She was a marvellous teacher, who lived for surgery, and invented an operation, which is called after her."

To Dr Wright—then still Ellie Lowenfeld—the war came unexpectedly. Her father was interned in Poland and completely cut off from the family. "After a time there was a telegram from Austria which said: 'Take charge of all my businesses'. First I had to find out what they were! The theatre was one of the things I had to look after. But that's another story."

She worked at the children's Hospital in Great Ormond Street, where she was the only woman house surgeon they had ever had. She was assistant to a famous surgeon of his time, Sir Arbuthnot Jones. It was a

close and happy working relationship, broken only once, when, asked to take under her wing a friend who had had a bad time in the war she discovered the only free day he had was one of Sir Arbuthnot's operating days. "I won't be here tomorrow," she said, explaining why. "Go and do your best for him," was the reply.

Though pacifist, she felt, she must work in a military hospital—all filled with the wounded who came off the front lines. There was absolutely nothing attractive to me about marriage—my parents' divorce and other family history had persuaded me that I would not get married. They said they would think about it for six months, and nothing came of it. After six months she explained her feelings, that she didn't want to be caged by marriage, she wanted to be free. He understood. "I said, if we got married, where are we going to live, what's going to be the scenery—what are you going to do with your life?" The answer, he gave, astonished her. "I'm going to be a medic, and live in China," he said. And so was I. I had given a pledge in 1910 to the Student Christian Move-

ment to become a medical missionary. And it was now 1916. And we had married for 56 years, and had four sons."

China is another story, and so is the work she did when she returned, for the National Birth Control Association. From her practice as a doctor from 1920 until 1949, she has the records of some 20,579 patients, and was horrified at their ignorance and lack of knowledge of the ways their own bodies worked. Once she wrote a booklet simply called *Birth Control* and it was an enormous success. "I sat down at 5.30 in the afternoon, and by 8.30 the following morning it was finished." She thinks she invented teaching about birth control in medical schools. Her most recent book (*Sex and Society: a new code of sexual behaviour*, Allen & Unwin, 1968) is the result of years of teaching and thinking. "Our society was in such a mess, and inventing methods for the control of fertility wasn't enough. I thought that I had got to write a more book and try to put into words what was needed. I took four years to write that book. In any case, I think I have done my duty."

And all the other stories? Will she not write them down, too, of a life richly and rewarding given to others? "There is the story of three eccentricities—my father, my sister and myself—but at my age I can't begin to write it. So I talk it in tapes. I've got to 1957. The tapes belong to us as a family—and there it will be, a complete record of the extraordinary lives of all three of us."

Now she lives in a ground floor flat. Instead of the big house she has always loved, ("I try to think of it as a yacht.") She says that, having had enough money, she has had no competitive spirit. Nor, it would seem, any fear—of a national medical men (replying, as a student in an examination, "I think that's a silly question"), of new worlds of challenges both physical and mental. She has come to fill that long empty position in our society—the wise woman of the tribe. And there is a sharp, bright, shining hook there, too.

Philippa Toomey

George Hutchinson

Talk about the closed shop will not hurt the Tories

If Mrs Thatcher believed, while she was still in Washington, that there is no discussion over the closed shop within her Shadow Cabinet, she has probably discovered the reality since her return to London. Differences do exist. Sir Keith Joseph and Mr James Prior have made them apparent in public. There is private evidence as well.

No harm need come of this. It is a good thing rather than a bad thing that the issue—the principle—should be debated within the Conservative Party from top to bottom. Free discussion is to be welcomed, not regretted—much less throttled. If the Tories are not the pre-emptive party of personal liberty they are nothing, and have lost their *raison d'être*.

Let the argument continue until it is resolved by honest, open and rational discussion.

□ Strolling in Kensington Gardens the other sunlit evening, we reflected—my wife and I—that for the moment we belonged to a very, very small minority: most of the people around us were overseas visitors. They seemed to be enjoying their good fortune.

How many of them had come from countries with public parks like our own? The answer was none. Nowhere in the world can you find parks of the quality, scale and number that we know all over the British Isles. There are an incompatible part of our heritage, and say something for the national character. What is more, they are often to be counted among the mainstays of the private philanthropy of earlier generations, not least in Victorian times—now so frequently derided.

The political climate in which we are living, with all the attendant attacks on the

possession of personal wealth, is such to discourage similar acts of generosity in the future. If Labour were to remain in office after the next election the onslaught would be intensified, with the introduction of a wealth tax. In that event we could say goodbye to many benefactions that would otherwise come the way of our art galleries, museums and other public institutions.

A government that deliberately sets out to extinguish the rich by confiscatory taxation will ultimately impoverish everyone—as we can see from the nearest glance at conditions in Eastern Europe.

□ John Ormiston is a wire maker in Ealing. The Ormiston family have been drawing wire in London since the years of the French Revolution. Nowadays, the firm—of which he is chairman—is somewhat specialized, manufacturing surgical

wires (a delicate trade, as you might imagine) and wires for yacht rigging, using all sorts of metals.

But Mr Ormiston is more than the head of a happy and successful family business in England. He is also the president of a European organization centred in Brussels which represents the interests of smaller or medium-sized businesses in all the countries of the EEC. As such he is of considerable consequence to their future, in the age of the vast corporation and swollen combine.

Mr Ormiston is a committed "European"—but a sensible one. He is not sold on sheer size, and the more unthinking of their political patrons. As a co-founder of the Union of Independent Companies he understands the value of the smaller business—which has an important social as well as

commercial role in any balanced community.

The UIC, established in July with Mr William Pooton as chairman, has a rather interesting structure based on parliamentary constituencies, so that members are elected and are themselves expected to promote the cause—and to promote it vigorously—in their own immediate neighbourhoods.

Mr Ormiston is meanwhile preparing for London's first European conference, to be held in November. To my mind, his endeavours in the field deserve every support from all who believe in the individual initiative which is the hallmark of the smaller private business at its best.

□ Lord Glenamara, the former Mr Edward Sharpe, is no longer the doctrinaire socialist of yesterday, or so it appears. Since becoming chairman of Cable and Wireless, he has

been quick to learn that business acumen deserves appropriate financial rewards. Hence the nominal promotion of three of his directors, two of whom will not benefit immediately but expect an early improvement in their fortunes if Lord Glenamara has his way.

There is no sensible objection to Lord Glenamara's desire to pay his directors more: they are conducting a successful business, though criticized. What is interesting is his ready acceptance of "capitalist" standards—or his conversion to them—now that he has abandoned his politics for industry and can judge the true nature of commercial enterprise from daily experience.

As he notes of his directors, with evident approval: "They could command very much higher salaries in the private sector."

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THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

Personal investment and finance, pages 18 and 19

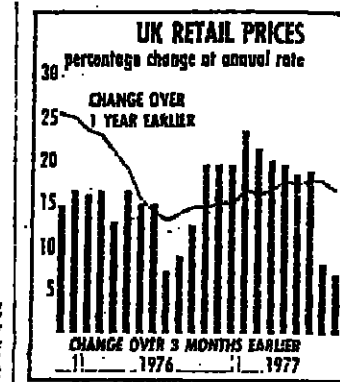
Cut in MLR to 6 per cent unlikely to prompt further change by banks

By John Whitmore
Financial Correspondent

The Bank of England yesterday cut its minimum lending rate from 6½ to 6 per cent but it is unlikely to prompt a further change by banks. The move was seen as a signal that the authorities were not prepared to allow the rate to fall further, and it was expected that the banks would not follow suit.

The key question now is how far British interest rates can move below those in America without reversing the recent strength of sterling. Already interest rates in, for instance, the British inter-bank market are up to half a per cent lower than equivalent rates in the Eurodollar market.

Should, however, overseas money continue to flow into the country on the expectation that a rising balance of payments surplus will eventually force the Government to allow sterling to appreciate, the authorities may eventually be forced to change their present strategy in the foreign exchange market.



Price index rise signals slowing of inflation rate

By David Blake
Economics Correspondent

More good economic news for the Government, this time on the price front, came yesterday with another hint from Mr. Healey that the Government is thinking of some new stimulus to the economy.

Share price relapse after bout of poor results from companies

By Our Financial Staff

An exciting week in the stock market ended on a downbeat note yesterday. Share prices, after reaching a 3½-year peak on a rising tide of expectations about the economy, saw the expected relapse as investors took a more realistic view of the underlying profitability of British industry.

Gains of a £1 and more were seen at both the long and short ends of the market. The issue of an £800m Treasury 8½ per cent 1982 short term took some of the steam out of the market but the FT government securities index still reached another five-year high of 73.0.

Overriding the buoyancy of gilts was a depressing string of results from major companies this week. Starting with BSR, Reckitt and Coleman and Babcock & Wilcox earlier in the week, the momentum picked up on Thursday with poor figures from Bridon, Stone-Platt and Retort.

200 pilgrims in search for state of wellbeing

What is a thriving society? And what may be done to turn Britain into a more thriving one. Today some 200 young managers, trade unionists and teachers, social and community workers set off to find out.

In study groups of 15, they will travel hopefully to a dozen industrial centres in the United Kingdom and one in Holland to look for examples of initiative, enterprise and collaboration directed towards social and economic progress.

Home loans a record at £690m

By Margaret Stone

Loans to home buyers were a record in August, when the building societies advanced £690m to borrowers and promised a further £699m to prospective purchasers.

Citibank raises prime lending rate to 7½ pc

From Frank Vogl
Washington, Sept 16

Citibank increased its prime lending rate to 7½ per cent from 7 per cent today. Numerous other New York banks, such as Manufacturers Trust and the Marine Midland, later made similar moves.

Even a slight increase now in the rate for federal funds, which can easily be promoted by Federal Reserve money market action, could result in a higher commercial paper rate and push Citibank's prime rate up to 7½ per cent within a few weeks.

The Fed seems likely in coming weeks cautiously to allow the Fed funds rate to inch ahead, and thus today's prime rate rises may be seen in time as being merely another step up the rising curve of 1980. The Fed's determination to tighten credit conditions somewhat may to some small extent be enhanced by the actions of the Congress with regard to raising the minimum wage.

Nigerian deals cost Tarmac £12m

By Bryan Appleyard

More than £24m was wiped off the stock market value of Tarmac, the roadstone and civil engineering group, yesterday when it disclosed provisions of £12m against losses on two big Nigerian contracts.

The company said that contracts held by Cubitts Nigeria had been completely mis-handled. In one case the price being asked was substantially higher than the market rate, and in the other a Nigerian Government decision to cut the amount it was prepared to pay had not been communicated to Tarmac's head office.

The one that should have come to light was a £15m contract to build an airfield at Maiduguri in northern Nigeria. The price negotiated by local management on this work bore no relation to the cost of the other contract which was for a teachers' training college at Yola. It was started about a year before the Cubitt takeover and some time before the deal. Tarmac says the Nigerian Ministry of Education had changed the terms of the contract terms unilaterally.

RETAIL PRICES

	(1) All items	(2) All items except seasonal food	(3) Annual % increase in (2) over 6 months earlier
1976			
Aug	158.5	158.5	13.2
Sept	160.6	160.0	14.5
Oct	163.5	162.8	14.4
Nov	165.8	164.8	14.2
Dec	168.0	168.8	15.2
1977			
Jan	172.4	170.9	18.0
Feb	174.1	172.5	18.4
Mar	175.8	174.3	18.7
Apr	180.3	178.7	19.7
May	181.7	180.5	20.0
June	183.8	182.4	19.8
July	185.8	184.9	19.8
Aug	184.7	184.9	14.9

GKN first-half decline in profits surprises market

By Nicholas Hirst

Guest Keen & Nettiefields, Britain's largest engineering group, yesterday announced a surprise £2.36m decline in first-half profits to £40.76m—about £15m lower than the stock market's expectations.

The disappointing results follow the recent trend set by several large industrial groups which reported last week. GKN's shares had dropped 17p to 340p yesterday in expectation of poorer figures, but could fall further on Monday.

'No evidence' of Cavenham share insider dealing

The Council of the Stock Exchange confirmed yesterday that after investigation it had found no evidence of insider dealing in Cavenham shares on March 8 last.

This was the day that Generale Occidentale, the group's parent, revealed that it would not proceed with the proposed 120p per share bid for the outstanding 49 per cent of the equity.

BSC planning to run down operations at Ebbw Vale

By Peter Hill

A progressive rundown of its steelmaking operations at Ebbw Vale, south Wales, was announced last night by the British Steel Corporation.

Norway denies breaking shipbuilding pact

By Our Industrial Correspondent

Norway yesterday strongly denied allegations by other shipbuilding nations that it had contravened internationally agreed guidelines in order to secure orders for its shipyards.

Unions to consider Ford pay offer of up to 10.5pc

By Edward Townsend

Union officials representing Ford's 57,000 hourly-paid workers will meet next week to consider a company pay offer which would give rises of 8.5 and 10.5 per cent and includes consolidation in wage rates of phase two pay increases.

How the markets moved

The Times index: 217.57—3.88
The FT index: 531.9—13.0

Rises		Falls	
Dorland Smith	7p to 140p	Newcastle	14p to 152p
Glaxo	5p to 232p	Travis & Arnold	7p to 137p
Min. Masters	5p to 185p	Uthmaniyah	5p to 235p
Beecham	12p to 648p	Oil Exploration	10p to 276p
BT	10p to 257p	Plessey	4p to 110p
Dreadnought	4p to 120p	Rotork	14p to 120p
Plessey	15p to 388p	Stonks Eng	10p to 232p

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia	1.63	1.58
Austria	30.25	28.25
Belgium	6.75	6.75
Canada	1.01	1.06
Denmark	11.10	10.70
Finland	7.55	7.25
France	8.34	8.52
Germany	6.25	6.125
Greece	5.40	5.25
Hong Kong	157.00	151.00
Italy	49.00	46.00
Japan	9.85	9.50
Netherlands	76.00	69.00
Norway	1.88	1.76
Portugal	143.75	144.50
Spain	8.75	8.40
Sweden	4.54	4.12
Switzerland	1.79	1.74
US	36.00	33.75

On other pages

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Interim Statements: Reckitt & Colman 19
Unit Trusts: Lawson High Yield M & G 18

How to get your own back when you retire

As a Director or Executive you'll know how punitive taxation is for high income earners. But its effect can be lessened. Under present pensions legislation your company can invest from pre-tax profits for your personal benefit.

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PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

Grouse

When, oh when will the Government alter its ruling on the taxation of gilt-edged securities purchased by unit trusts so as to let the unit trust industry offer the public specialist funds investing in the gilt-edged market?

At present the income from gilt-edged securities is unfranked; it hasn't borne corporation tax as has the franked income which is received from companies by way of dividend. The result is that in the hands of a corporate body, unfranked income is liable to corporation tax.

And the same goes for unit trust investment in gilt-edged securities. When unfranked income from this form of investment is received by the unit trust first of all corporation tax has to be charged before it can be forwarded to unitholders as part of the income distribution. And then the unitholder has to pay income tax and maybe the investment income surcharge too on his unit trust income.

For years the unit trust industry has been arguing against this penal form of double taxation—which is what it amounts to—levied against the unitholder. But so far its representations have met with little success.

It seems a spurious argument to suggest that such a change would reduce taxation revenue: as there is scarcely any unit trust investment in gilts, the government hasn't much income to lose. On the other hand, it could stand to gain a great deal from the increased sales of gilts, which from time to time would certainly occur if the industry was allowed to sell.

There are some other problems which have been found. There are gilt-edged bonds which are another variant of linked life assurance and there are the offshore Jersey and Isle of Man gilt funds. Both have their place but there is even more room for the simple and flexible gilt-edged unit trust.

One group is living with the tax problem and has launched a gilt unit trust designed to maximize capital growth. But for the majority of would-be investors in a gilt-edged unit trust, the industry is hamstrung until the double taxation element is removed.

Fixed interest

Time to wait and see

Question: when does a booming stock market make you feel poor? Answer: when you are not fully invested.

Those who have sat on the sidelines this year must be feeling distinctly poorer. But what is worse they have missed out in two ways. Most obviously, though of less importance to those who are primarily interested in income, is that they have lost out on the capital appreciation. More basically, they have missed the opportunity to buy long-term securities offering historically high yields.

Simply keeping money in a building society has not, of course, been a total disaster. Building society interest rates have fallen much more slowly than some other rates—though the situation here looks likely to become very much less favourable during the next few weeks.

Much more serious has been the plight of anyone who has left money on a bank deposit account. Here the rate of interest paid has fallen from 11 per cent last autumn to a meagre 3 per cent. The message cannot be driven home too often: if you have money on deposit with a bank, take it out fast.

Meanwhile, our two high interest portfolios, launched in January and May of this year, have fared reasonably well. By

HIGH INCOME PORTFOLIO (1)

	Purchase price	Yield %	Price now
Treasury 15% 1985	£110	14.1	123
British Leyland 8% unsecured loan 1986-1988	£201	20.2	46
Turner & Newall 11% loan 1985-200	£778	15.1	901
Trust Houses 12% 1985-1990	122p	9.2	173
Grattan Warehouses	84p	8.7	148

HIGH INCOME PORTFOLIO (2)

	Purchase price	Yield %	Price now
Building society (my assets)	—	10.77	—
GIC 12% loan stock 1985	£104	12	106
BAT Investments 10% unsecured loan stock 1985-1990	£61	12.9	85
Widnes Match 10% 1985-88	79p	12.4	79
Lorho	79p	12.4	79

and large, I would leave them intact. The main area of possible change would be the equity holdings.

Lorho has performed lamely against the market this year, but then it would be hard to replace it on a similar yield basis. Grattan and Trust Houses, on the other hand, have moved up strongly with the market.

If you believe that the bull market has a lot further to go yet, you might well hang on to both shares. If not, sell into the next upturn in share prices.

Now that interest rates generally have fallen so far so fast that the prospects of obtaining long-term real returns—that is, a return over and above the inflation rate—have been narrowed, particularly if you believe that the prospective share downturn in the inflation rate this winter is unlikely to prove long-lived.

So what does one do? The first thing to be said is that it is difficult to enmesh about ordinary shares. Certainly, some of the good old faithfuls are still around, notably Imperial Group (9 3/4 per cent) and Woolworth (10 per cent), but neither looks that tempting at the moment.

One should, on the other hand, have some exposure to the high yields at the long end of the gilt market. I would not, however, go it alone at this stage.

Given that the market could be near its peak, I would put my funds under management in the expectation that my money could be turned into liquidity at the right moment. The kind of fund that would seem appropriate here would be something like the King & Shaxton Gilt Fund (Jersey), yielding 12 per cent with a minimum subscription of £1,000. For the year, I am advocating a wait and see policy for the short-term. Although I have warned of the inevitability of a cut in mortgage rates, there is still a good case for retaining a reasonable degree of liquidity in a portfolio in any portfolio. That case is even stronger now with the possibility that markets may boil over.

What is important here is to obtain the best out of a building society, and here I would suggest a close look at something like the savings scheme recently announced by the Cheltenham and Gloucester, offering 12.5 per cent over share rate and a great deal more flexibility than other savings schemes.

John Whitmore

Pensions

Sick pay schemes are adjusted for NI benefits

The amount of benefit you can expect to receive from your employer or his pension scheme if you have to retire before the normal time is likely to depend on the reason for your retirement. Any formal promise of improved benefits over what has already been secured by the time you retire will usually be restricted to cases of ill-health. In these circumstances the amount of benefit promised will also be affected to some extent by the way it is arranged.

Where there is a separate sick-pay scheme, covering the period up to the original expected retirement date, the benefit during that period may be anything up to three-quarters of your pay before you fall sick. If the level is as much as three-quarters, the benefit received from the National Insurance scheme is almost always deducted. Some employers take off only the single person's level of benefit even if in the event you are entitled to an increase for your wife or children.

Quite frequently a lower fraction is used, one half being probably the commonest. In this case there will very likely be no adjustment for National Insurance benefits. As the state provides a flat rate payment, it is more favourable to have a lower rate without adjustment. The amounts are normally arranged in the light of the pay levels in the particular firm to ensure that no one receives more than three-quarters less National Insurance benefit. The idea is to leave an incentive to get back to work.

The level of sick pay may well be based on basic earnings. Anyone who earns bonus or overtime will find a bigger gap between actual earnings and pay while off sick, and this may be taken into account in deciding on the level of sick pay and any deductions to be made.

Once it starts, sick pay may remain at a fixed level, or it may increase at some predetermined rate, often 3 or 4 per cent. The maximum normally allowed is 5 per cent.

The conditions on which it is paid vary considerably. Some causes of incapacity may be excluded, and there are sometimes fairly heated discussions about the fairness of this. Most probably if you recover sufficiently to take another job, even after a really long period of illness, your sick pay will be cut or stopped.

All this is to cover long periods of sickness. The benefit will normally continue (if you remain incapacitated) up to the normal pension date under the pension scheme. At that time you will be treated as having retired instead of being absent sick and your pension will start to be payable from the pension scheme.

For the first three or six months of sickness there is usually a higher benefit, often supplied by the National Insurance payments to the full rate of pay before sickness. Of pay before sickness. For the majority of employees falling sick this period of higher benefit will cover the whole of the time until they recover. If not, however, it will be limited to basic earnings.

For this initial period, too, the flat rate National Insurance sickness payments will be supplemented by an earnings related addition based on your PAYE earnings in the previous fiscal year. This supplement continues for 26 weeks.

If the other approach is adopted, anyone permanently incapacitated will receive his benefits from the pension scheme. There will normally be a short-term sick pay scheme on similar lines to those set out above, but there is likely to be more flexibility as to the length of time for which payments continue. It will normally have a defined legal entitlement for a period possibly depending on length of service. If at the end of it you are still ill, but seem likely to recover, the period may well be extended.

It has been decided that an employee is not likely to return to work his sick pay will cease and he will be treated as retiring: the pension scheme takes over responsibility for further payments. In the normal way of things this pension would continue for life like any other pension from the firm, irrespective of whether the pensioner recovers or gets another job. It thus avoids a number of problems, particularly the need to make sure that the recipient is still incapacitated, except possibly important, there is no difficulty about someone who recovers after a really long illness to find that his job has been filled.

The longer people remain off work through illness, the harder it becomes to get them back to their old employment. It is particularly difficult if they held positions of responsibility or did a job which needed some specialist skill or knowledge. This situation is similar to the employee who simply loses some of his drive, inventiveness, adaptability or memory with advancing years.

Neither case can be said to be "incapacity" as a result of ill health; yet in both circumstances the employer may be unable usefully to employ the employee concerned, except possibly at a much more junior level. Such cases can only be dealt with through the pension scheme.

I will turn next time to the level of benefits commonly provided under pension schemes in these circumstances. Most of the above refers to benefits under a sick-pay scheme rather than a pension scheme. Which illustrates the importance of looking at your terms of employment as a whole, not just at one part in isolation.

Eric Brunker

Retiring abroad

Making the most of being a senior citizen in the sun

The interest in Harry Brown's recent series "Working abroad" has only been matched by the demand from pensioners living overseas for more information about "Retiring abroad". This is the first of a two articles on the subject.

Over the past month I have outlined the problems which can beset the unwary who go to work abroad without first taking advice. As many, if not more, problems can bedevil those who go abroad to live—rather than to work.

A great percentage of the people who move abroad to live are not, in the main, the high-flying tax exiles but those who have worked hard all their lives and who for one reason or another decide to make a move to a more temperate climate, a lower rate of inflation or simply a change of scene to suit their plans for retirement.

Basically, the same exchange control restrictions that affect working expatriates apply to those who retire abroad. In fact, with one important difference—the exchange control guidelines that I gave in the article of August 20 have equal relevance.

If, however, the family unit includes a man aged 65 or over or a woman aged 60 or over, the overseas sterling allowance of £20,000 is extended to cover countries which would otherwise have a £5,000 maximum allowance. In addition to the basic capital allowances, the Bank of England will normally sanction the unrepatriated "expatriation" of:

(a) household and personal effects—including motor cars—which are assessed to be "reasonable" when taking into account the emigrant's total assets;

(b) sterling life assurance and endowment policies effected more than three years prior to the application for emigration treatment.

Policies effected within three years of emigration (other than those which have a current surrender value of less than £100) will remain blocked for four years after emigration treatment is given.

Sterling "purchased life" annuity contracts effected any time earlier than emigration are not restricted; repayment can be remitted freely.

A sterling "annuity certain" (that is an annuity which continues for a fixed period irrespective of the annuitant's survival) is not freely remittable. Unless these contracts have been effected more than three years before the application for emigration treatment, the Bank of England regards them as an investment and will only allow the free remittance of "interest content" of annuities certain; the "capital content" is restricted within the overall allowances.

Holders of single premium bonds (which are usually geared to property, equity funds, and the like) who have been using the withdrawal of capital facility will generally get allowed to come to do so up to a maximum of 10 per cent per annum. Normally these withdrawals are regarded as income and are therefore freely remittable.

All capital assets owned by the family unit in excess of the allowances which I have given above, will be "blocked" for a period of four years and may only be transferred abroad during that time by purchase investment currency through the investment currency market.

The restricted assets may be used for a wide variety of purposes within the United Kingdom including the purchase of sterling securities and payment of expenses which are incurred here.

Anyone who goes to live abroad and receives emigration treatment from the Bank of England is entitled to continue to hold a bank account within

the United Kingdom. Such sterling bank accounts, maintained by non-residents, are designated as "external" accounts. Sterling held in an external account is known as "external sterling"; that is it can be used for any purpose changed into foreign currency. The greatest care is taken by the Bank of England to ensure that no dishonest transactions take place since, clearly, if a resident were able freely to transfer sterling to another person's external account, all sorts of nefarious deals could take place. Therefore, external accounts may, in the main, only be credited with:

(a) sterling from outside the scheduled territories;

(b) interest due on the account;

(c) funds from another sterling account;

(d) resident sterling which has been authorized for credit to the external account (for example, interest from blocked United Kingdom assets or rents or other income such as annuities and British pensions);

(e) the sterling proceeds of the sale of foreign currencies which have been sold.

To avoid falling into the traps with which this exotic field is strewn, it is absolutely vital that anyone who goes to retire abroad should seek advice.

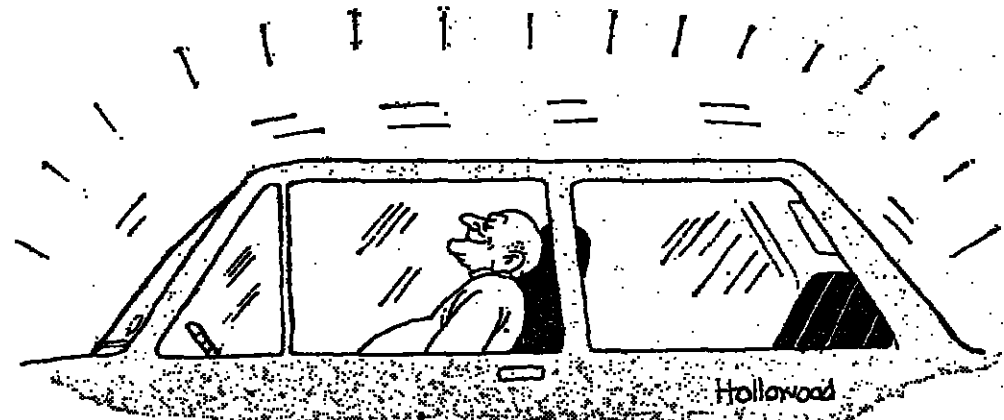
The clearing banks and the advisers specializing in this area can all help; the Bank of England, through authorized banks, issues a first-class Guide to emigrants. It is free, written for the layman and sets out the basic rules.

Next week I shall begin to look at the United Kingdom tax problems which can beset those going to retire abroad.

Harry Brown

The writer of this series is also published by Findex Limited (£6.50).

Motor insurance



"...rather because their annual mileage is often relatively low."

Tailor-made discounts

Despite the sharp increases in motor premiums over the past few years, motor insurance is still highly competitive. Insurers watch each other's activities like hawks, to see where it may be possible to gain some rating advantage for a certain sector of the motoring public.

Of course, insurers are encouraged to be more competitive by the activities of those brokers who are in close touch with the market and who will not only place new business with the insurer offering the best terms, but also may win a significant proportion of existing business as it comes up for renewal.

For insurers, the practical effect is that if they tried to follow their own course without worrying about their competitors, they could very quickly run into trouble. The sensitivity of the market also means that, if an insurer wants to attract more business there is no need to engage in an expensive advertising campaign.

All that is necessary is to defer making the next planned increase in premiums by two or three months. This will result in the company being one of the cheapest—and there will be no shortage of business from brokers who have spotted this fact with or without the help of one of the computer-based services available to them.

Nevertheless, it is important not to generalize about insurers' premium rates. In individual circumstances there can be significant variations.

In the past, for instance, I have mentioned a few companies which have set out to attract the older driver by offering discounts off their normal rates.

The view, backed by statistics, is that older drivers tend to be cheaper to cover from the claims point of view—no necessarily because they are better drivers, but rather because their annual mileage is often relatively low, and there is less chance of an accident.

Such a company aiming particularly to attract the older driver will not, however, be best for all older drivers. It may pay many to stay where they are, but to a company which has not announced any special offer for those over the age of 50, 60, 65, or whatever other age.

Discounts are by no means uniform among insurers. Sometimes, the rate of discount allowed for a particular voluntary restriction can be the deciding point.

Not surprisingly, in an effort to cut insurance costs, many motorists have restricted the driving to themselves, often with the addition of their spouses. Useful discounts can be earned—and sometimes the discount is higher for a woman than a man.

base their discounts on the lower claims experience of women—perhaps because they are not on the road so much, apart from the fact that many women drive at a slightly lower speed than men.

A discount of 20 per cent is allowed to a woman by one company, 15 per cent to a man, and 10 per cent for husband and wife driving. Surprisingly, the company says that, although these discounts are attractive compared with what is on offer elsewhere, its proportion of policyholders with voluntary driving restrictions is lower than the national average.

There are variations in the rate of discount allowed for a voluntary excess for accidental damage. Probably a £25 excess is most common.

While this may seem a low figure often, it is increased in the case of anyone with a relatively high no-claims discount. The rate of discount is reduced in proportion to the loss of discount at subsequent renewals.

Gradually, however, an excess of £50 is gaining in popularity to earn a discount of say 20 per cent—although, so far, there are not many takers for a £100 excess. At that stage it may be better simply to be uninsured for accidental damage altogether and to take a policy covering third party, fire and theft risks.

Disappointed males cannot quote the Sex Discrimination Act, because the companies

are not on the road so much, apart from the fact that many women drive at a slightly lower speed than men.

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John Drummond

Investment trust valuations

VALUATION MONTHLY

Company	Date of valuation	Annual dividend	Net asset value after dividend	Investment currency (see note)
1423 Alliance	31.8.77	6.35	272.7	19.2
246 Catalina and National	31.8.77	3.1	102.1	0.7
101 Claverhouse	31.8.77	3.2	99.9	10.2
100 Crossroads	31.8.77	3.3	101.2	10.2
1418 Dunce & London	31.8.77	7.2	79.8	9.8
478 Edinburgh	31.8.77	2.55	124.1	11.7
115 Grange	31.8.77	1.81	97.0	11.3
65.9 Great Northern	31.8.77	3.45	128.8	4.8
59.3 Guardian	31.8.77	2.1	99.9	10.2
62.7 Invest Trust Corp	31.8.77	5.915	251.4	10.9
77.0 Investors Colonial	31.8.77	1.25	94.0	10.1
19.8 Jintoku Japan	31.8.77	1.7	123.3	11.0
32.4 London & Holyrood	31.8.77	3.2	139.5	10.7
22.6 London & Montrose	31.8.77	4.3	272.2	21.8
43.3 London & Provincial	31.8.77	1.34	134.1	12.8
100.2 Mercantile	31.8.77	0.95	48.3	5.4
30.8 North American	31.8.77	£4.50	£74.40	£2.10
48.8 Northern Assurance	31.8.77	2.4	112.3	12.1
6.9 S & P Linked	31.8.77	—	145.3	9.7
107.2 Scottish	31.8.77	2.8	116.9	10.1
50.9 Scottish Northern	31.8.77	2.8	114.3	9.8
91.7 Scottish Union	31.8.77	1.77	107.7	10.6
47.0 Sincere Alliance	31.8.77	5.65	141.7	16.7
46.8 Shires	31.8.77	7.36	143.7	16.7
23.7 Sterling	31.8.77	4.85	212.9	16.8
28.0 Technology	31.8.77	1.75	123.3	12.8
10.1 United British	31.8.77	7.95	300.1	21.1
11.1 Bellie Gifford	31.8.77	9.0	137.9	14.5
24.5 Scottish Alliance	31.8.77	3.5	171.2	10.7
25.3 Edinburgh & Dundee	31.8.77	7.4	62.9	6.3
35.3 Nona	31.8.77	1.4	62.9	6.3
19.7 Winton	31.8.77	3.75	235.5	21.0
57.4 Ouchie	31.8.77	£1.265	£44.4	£4.2
12.2 Trevelyan	31.8.77	12.1	854.4	85.0
Criffels Warburg	31.8.77	1.4	86.2	8.2
57.3 Edinburgh Fund Managers	31.8.77	—	—	—
13.4 Arden	31.8.77	1.2	59.5	5.8
13.3 Cresset Group	31.8.77	—	156.6	21.2
19.9 Alliance	31.8.77	2.45	124.3	12.0
15.0 Cardinal	31.8.77	3.3	139.8	8.1
10.0 Cow Leons 1825/87	31.8.77	56.00	£113.20	£11.00
1.1 F & C Barford	31.8.77	2.9	195.3	20.6
19.0 Foreign & Col	31.8.77	3.4	132.9	13.7
27.0 General Investors	31.8.77	—	—	—
14.6 Provincial Group	31.8.77	1.345	34.3	3.1
Garmonie Investment	31.8.77	7.2	101.5	10.5
5.7 Alliance	31.8.77	0.36	206.0	2.7
24.2 Anglo-Scottish	31.8.77	1.5	94.4	9.2
26.1 English & Scottish	31.8.77	1.7	92.1	9.1
32.2 London & Garmonie	31.8.77	1.7	92.1	9.1
8.0 Overseas Investors	31.8.77	0.5	83.1	8.8
10.2 London & Levens	31.8.77	2.1	83.1	8.8
6.5 London & Levens	31.8.77	2.1	83.1	8.8
10.6 London & Strathclyde	31.8.77	1.25	52.4	5.6
11.1 Midland	31.8.77	1.25	52.4	5.6
9.9 NY & Garmonie	31.8.77	0.3	36.8	3.8
Garmonie Investment (Sec)	31.8.77	3.05	182.7	18.1
69.5 Scottish National	31.8.77	2.05	127.6	12.3
17.0 Glasgow Stockholders	31.8.77	—	—	—
John Gifford	31.8.77	—	—	—

34.4	Border & Southern	31.8.77	5.5	365.2	37.6	24.7
34.4	Debenport Corp	31.8.77	2.75	106.7	10.7	4.3
17.3	General Stockholders	31.8.77	1.7	126.2	14.3	11.3
16.3	Laker	31.8.77	1.2	104.8	10.4	5.7
56.3	Lake View	31.8.77	2.1	113.8	11.2	7.6
2.7	London 1979/80	31.8.77	2.00	£151.00	£15.00	£10.10
58.8	Stockholders	31.8.77	2.00	£151.00	£15.00	£10.10
15.4	GTC Management	31.8.77	0.675	71.4	7.1	2.4
10.1	GTC Loan 1980	31.8.77	24.25	£103.50	£10.35	£5.50
8.1	Northern Sec	31.8.77	3.0	135.4	14.1	7.6
12.7	Northern Sec	31.8.77	3.0	135.4	14.1	7.6
30.8	Northern Sec	31.8.77	—	—	—	—
22.9	Northern Sec	31.8.77	5.25	233.3	24.3	8.3
3.7	City of Oxford	31.8.77	3.0	77.6	8.2	—
41.5	Edinburgh	31.8.77	3.25	116.2	12.1	5.7
5.8	Edinburgh	31.8.77	—	—	—	—
5.8	Rosedonind	31.8.77	—	—	—	—
112.6	Hamden Administration	31.8.77	—	—	—	—
112.6	Witac	31.8.77	*1.9	109.3	11.5	*7.1
112.6	Electric & Gen	31.8.77	1.3	80.2	9.1	7.1
112.6	General	31.8.77	1.2	109.3	10.9	5.8
32.9	Lewland	31.8.77	1.95	91.7	9.2	5.8
22.1	Electric National	31.8.77	1.95	91.8	9.2	5.8
22.1	Gen 250	31.8.77	1.86	52.2	5.7	—
22.1	Philip Hill (Management)	31.8.77	1.86	52.2	5.7	—
1.1	City & International	31.8.77	—	—	—	—
1.1	Gen & Com	31.8.77	4.55	163.8	17.3	9.9
21.8	General Consolidated	31.8.77	3.1	120.5	12.5	4.0
21.8	General	31.8.77	6.8	22.07	22.5	4.0
4.5	Macgiste	31.8.77	5.055	—	—	0.9
33.6	1928	31.8.77	7.55	251.5	26.1	13.7
33.6	Reyn & Sine	31.8.77	—	—	—	—
35.5	Atlantic Assets	31.8.77	0.4	112.4	11.9	3.1
35.5	British Assets	31.8.77	1.9	81.6	8.6	7.0
35.5	Edinburgh American	31.8.77	1.2	127.4	12.7	12.7
35.5	Viking	31.8.77	0.9	127.4	12.7	7.6
3.8	Joseph Joseph	31.8.77	1.35	86.3	67.2	—
5.6	Alfred-Walsh	31.8.77	1.4	86.6	94.8	—
5.6	Leonard Joseph	31.8.77	1.4	86.6	94.8	—
5.6	Thames	31.8.77	2.4	79.9	80.2	—
5.6	Koyas Utilitace	31.8.77	—	—	—	—
10.7	Thermotronics Sec	31.8.77	2.35	163.9	16.4	11.7
10.7	Thermotronics	31.8.77	4.0	72.0	78.0	—
25.9	Blairmont Deacons	31.8.77	1.3	49.4	50.5	2.1
25.9	British American	31.8.77	3.22	124.4	12.4	5.2
30.0	Charter Trust	31.8.77	1.9	68.7	71.1	6.2
30.0	English & NY	31.8.77	2.5	92.3	94.8	8.8
2.7	Jos	31.8.77	2.45	85.9	85.9	1.6
2.7	Jos	31.8.77	2.45	85.9	85.9	1.6
4.6	London Prudential	31.8.77	2.45	85.9	85.9	4.2
46.2	Alfred-Walsh	31.8.77	2.45	85.9	85.9	6.4
46.2	Lazard Bros.	31.8.77	2.45	85.9	85.9	6.4
34.6	Latent	31.8.77	2.35	163.9	16.4	11.7
34.6	Rosier	31.8.77	3.25	111.3	111.3	9.2
10.7	Martin Currie	31.8.77	3.1	134.9	138.0	10.5
10.7	Scottish & Foreign	31.8.77	3.1	134.9	138.0	10.5
10.7	St Andrew	31.8.77	3.65	144.2	149.9	9.9
68.6	Scottish Eastern	31.8.77	3.75	153.5	159.6	13.3
68.6	Scottish	31.8.77	3.75	153.5	159.6	13.3
54.5	Sec Trust Soc	31.8.77	5.4	213.2	224.7	18.1
3.1	Western Canada	31.8.77	1.60	675.7	632.7	61.9
40.4	Murray Johnston	31.8.77	—	—	—	—
40.4	Calcedonian	31.8.77	*1.6	88.9	92.7	9.5
15.5	Clydeale	31.8.77	*1.6	88.9	92.7	9.5
15.5	Glennview	31.8.77	*1.65	89.8	95.8	7.4
15.5	Glenamary	31.8.77	—	—	—	—
68.6	Scottish & Foreign	31.8.77	3.75	153.5	159.6	13.3
68.6	Scottish	31.8.77	3.75	153.5	159.6	13.3
68.6	Scottish Western	31.8.77	3.75	153.5	159.6	13.3
68.6	Second Gt Northern	31.8.77	*1.65	100.2	112.4	10.2
68.6	Second Gt Northern	31.8.77	*1.65	100.2	112.4	10.2
420.2	Aschwin	31.8.77	3.4	171.4	178.5	16.9
420.2	Govt Loan 1980/81	31.8.77	24.75	£123.00	£12.30	£7.70
420.2	Brownrigg	31.8.77	—	—	—	—

EDITED BY MARGARET STONE

Unit trusts

Past performance is no guide to the future

Which unit trust, or group of unit trusts, has managed consistently to hit the jackpot in a bull market? Investors queuing up for the answer will be disappointed. For the answer is none of them.

Past performance is no guide to the future. Frequently trusts that performed well one year will be among the worst performers during the following 12 months.

In the case of the specialist funds this is quite logical, given the volatile nature of certain areas like commodities and the real estate commitment of the specialist fund to its sector. But in fact a comparison of the three major bull phases of the stock market during the past 10 years reveals that no one fund or group of funds has managed to be top of the charts on each occasion.

Of course, investment analysts can move, management companies can be taken over and a whole assortment of other events can break the continuity. The investment manager of a large unit trust, grouping assets under one of the clearing banks told me recently that he thought that every manager got his strategy absolutely right just once in his life.

This would appear to be a good reason for any investor to look for any consistent pattern in performance. But the other reason must be that in each bull phase the market itself has performed differently and this affects the relative performance of individual funds.

In 1967-68 the noticeable feature of the most successful

TOP OF THE POPS IN THE BULL MARKET			
Rise from Dec 31, 1966 to Dec 31, 1968	%	Rise from Dec 31, 1970 to Dec 31, 1971	%
Ebor Capital Accumulator	146	Oceanic Performance	87
Investment Trust Unit	124	Surinvest Future Income	85
Stockholders	121	Property Growth with Income	78
Tyndall Exempt	118	Ebor Property & Buildings	74
TSC	117	Slate Walker Assets	70
Financial Properties	114	High Income Priority	67
Tyndall Capital	114	Surinvest Performance	67
Pam Australian	112	Slate Walker High Income	65
Target Financial	111	Tyndall Ulster	64
Gold & General	110	ScotIncome	64

funds was their size. The stock market rose from just over 300 to just over 500 between the end of 1966 and the beginning of 1969.

Money Management figures for the two years to the end of December 1968 show the Ebor Capital Accumulator fund in first place, with a rise of 146 per cent. Ebor was then an independent management group. Second was Save and Prosper, with a rise of 124 per cent.

The former is about £15m in size and ITU was then, and still is, the single largest unit trust. Who else did well in 1967 and 1968? Tyndall was represented, with its Exempt fund showing a rise of 118 per cent and its Capital fund, another of the larger trusts, showing a rise of 114 per cent.

Stockholders, a smaller fund managed by John Govey, which had holdings of international as

well as United Kingdom blue chips, was third among the top 10. London Wall's Financial Priority fund, with a rise of 114 per cent and Target's Financial fund with an increase of 111 per cent, were both among the best performers. The Jessel Gold and General fund, now part of Britannia, rounded up the top 10.

Many of these top performing funds were of substantial size, but the next bull phase, running roughly from the beginning of 1971 to the market peak in mid-May, 1972, was characterized by the presence of smaller unit trusts among the dominant performers.

The first four places in the top 10 for 1971 were under £1m in size, and none of the funds in the chart was over £7m.

This was the "go-go" era, and the prizes went to the highly flexible operators. Oceanic Performance, heading

the list with an 87.7 per cent gain in 1971, stood at just £500,000 at the end of the year. Surinvest's Future Income was just £300,000, while further down the chart its Performance fund, standing at £1.9m, showed a rise of 65.9 per cent.

The smaller management companies did particularly well in 1971. Portfolio Management's Portfolio Growth with Income, standing at less than £250,000—came fourth with a rise of 73.3 per cent. Another small one, Ebor Property and Buildings, introduced a major management group into the performance figures with a gain of 73.7 per cent. But with the Ebor fund standing at £600,000 at the end of 1971, its presence underlines the success of small as opposed to large funds during this particular bull phase.

Among the larger funds, Slater Walker, now renamed the Britannia Group, was well represented. Its £6.5m Slater

Walker Assets Funds showed a gain of 70 per cent and its High Income fund a gain of 65 per cent. Another Save and Prosper fund, ScotIncome, rounded up the top performers in 1971.

But some of the other major unit trust groups also did well that year, with a number of their funds outperforming the 42 per cent rise in the index. Barclay's Unicorn achieved a number of successes. Its 500 fund clocked up a gain of 61.6 per cent, while its Income trust performed similarly well. Its Trustee Financial General and Accumulator funds all outperformed the index.

Considering its size and the number of its funds Unicorn turned in a good overall performance in 1971, even though no single one got into the top 10 best performers.

gaining 59.5 per cent. Its former bull market winner, the Gold and General fund, moved only fractionally higher in the 1971 bull market.

Just outside the top 10 came M & G's Recovery fund and its Trustee and Second General Trust, with gains of more than 50 per cent on the year.

The feature of the recovery in the stock market during 1975, when it rose from 151 at the beginning of January to close the year at about 376, was its sharpness and speed. No unit trust succeeded in beating the 152 per cent gain registered by the all-share index.

Hill Samuel was, by a stroke of luck or genius, fully invested at the start of the year. Its Income fund rose by 129 per cent and its Capital fund by 125 per cent. The Security fund showed a gain of 112 per cent.

Investment philosophy was in fact tending back to the fundamentals. So income funds took four of the top seven places. The list of top performers in 1975 has indeed some of the most solid groups well represented.

In this year's present bull phase some of the smaller specialist funds are making the running. M & G's Recovery fund has been a top performer all year, followed by other specialist vehicles, like London Wall's Special Situations and both the Hambros Smaller Companies funds.

Margaret Drummond

Insurance

Variations in flexible policies

The Scottish life offices have been the pioneers in the introduction of "flexible" endowment policies, although the idea so far has been taken up by comparatively few offices due to the caution (which should not necessarily be criticized) of many actuaries.

The Scottish Provident Institution introduced the idea. Quite simply, a profit sharing policy is arranged to run until the anniversary date preceding one's sixty-fifth birthday. Once premiums have been paid for 10 years the policy can be surrendered on any policy anniversary for a guaranteed cash sum, plus bonuses.

For anyone who does not have to pay a fixed rate in the future (for example, to repay a house purchase loan on a specific date), a flexible policy gets over the problem that, with an ordinary policy, generally a relatively poor surrender value is paid to anyone wanting to take cash before the maturity date of the policy.

Naturally, one pays a price for this flexibility—in the form of a higher premium than would be required for a policy without guaranteed surrender values—although many life offices admit that they do not know whether they are charging the right price.

Clearly, the problem for a life office issuing this type of policy in any volume is that it cannot invest in the same way as for a traditional policy, since, in a year of depressed economic conditions, it would be possible for all those who had paid premiums for at least 10 years to surrender their policies for guaranteed cash sums.

In the event of a serious "run" of surrenders, it is the main body of profit sharing policyholders who would suffer, since reserves would have to be "raided" to meet the cash, or, put another way, the incoming premiums would have to be paid out straight away, instead of being invested advantageously for the long term.

Naturally, life offices try, so far as possible, to arrange their investments so that they will "match" their liabilities and various deals have been arranged with local authorities

specifically for flexible policies. While the Scottish Provident Institution declares the same rate of bonus for all its profit-sharing policies, the Scottish Amicable Life Assurance Society introduced a different bonus structure for this type of policy, as the volume of sales rose.

Here, the longer a policy is in force, the more attractive does the bonus become. This is partly an inducement to policyholders not to surrender early, and partly to reflect the different investment policy which has to be adopted.

If, however, there should be a serious run of surrenders at any time, the day could not be saved simply by adjusting the bonus rate for this class of policyholder. The "traditional" profit-sharing policyholders, also, would be affected.

The Scottish Amicable has stressed the value of a series of mini policies (each for a premium of £1 a month), so that, after the first 10 years, each individual policy can be dealt with separately. If only a small amount of cash is needed at any time only a few policies need be surrendered with the rest remaining in force.

The Scottish Equitable Life Assurance Society has taken the idea of flexibility a stage further. If policies are still in force at the normal maturity date (the policy anniversary before one's sixty-fifth birthday), there is no need to take the cash.

Effectively, the office will put the cash due to one "on deposit". After the deduction of tax at no more than the life offices' rate of 37½ per cent and a modest deduction for expenses, the interest earned in this way will be added to the maturity value at death or on earlier surrender at any time, in the form of a special tax-free bonus. Here again, individual policies can be surrendered as and when tax-free cash is needed.

While this is a way of drawing tax-free cash after the age of 65, a policy should not necessarily be arranged with this in mind at a relatively early age, since, in that case, the higher premium for the earlier flexibility and one would not be taking advantage of it.

JD

Investor's week

Reaction sets in after the market reaches a new high

With the FT Ordinary share index passing its all-time peak on Wednesday, the main topic now exercising the financial community is the extent to which the market will progress further, or, alternatively, react from the spectacular rise of the last few weeks.

For those who believe the market can go higher, the signs at the end of the week were not promising. Some argue that share prices have risen too far, too fast to avoid a reaction and the first signs are that this view will be vindicated with the index losing more than 17 points over the last two days of the week.

At last night's close of 531.9 it stood just 1.8 better over the five days but 17.3 points below

Wednesday's best level. This late reaction apart—and many would attribute it to end of account influences—those closest to the market appear to be more bullish.

Some brokers think that the index will make substantial progress towards an inflation-related peak which, at 1972 values, would put it at over 1,000. To further their case they argue that the institutions have concentrated their funds on gilt-edged stocks in recent months and, while this has given a corresponding rise to equities, they have not yet played a full part in the spectacular rise in share values.

But those same fund managers seem less certain of the future with many reported to feel that the market has, at

best, another 10 per cent to run and see "600 by Christmas" as the limit of their expectations.

The small investor has taken the more cautious line, too, and a good part of the profits taken since Wednesday have come from that quarter. The key to all this probably lies with interest rates which, at their present levels, make equity yields an increasingly attractive proposition.

For the moment there is no sign of an easing of the downward pressure on rates and until the pound is allowed to rise on the foreign exchange markets there is unlikely to be a change of direction.

Interest rates report, the main potential threat to share values over the next few months would

be the failure of the Government to hold the unions to their 10 per cent guideline on pay settlements.

After a slow start to the week, equities began to rise after an encouraging set of wholesale price figures and base rates cuts from the clearing banks. Wednesday's trade figures were very above expectations and gave the index just the sort of lift it needed to break new ground.

Though overshadowed by some extent by Wednesday's euphoria, gifts came into their own at the end of the week when the minimum lending rate, contrary to earlier signs for moderation, was cut by a further ½ per cent. In spite of these signals many dealers had

remained convinced that there would be a cut and this was one of the main factors behind a lively trade which saw daily gains of £1 or more.

Investors also took heart from the money supply figures and evidence of their confidence came from the new long "tap" which was three times subscribed—earlier estimates had been higher than that—and traded at a 53 premium on the £30 partly-paid price when dealings started yesterday.

But prices were subdued by the new short tap announced yesterday. Dealers felt this still left the long end free to go ahead.

Babcock and Wilcox went through the so-called "Beecham gap" by obtaining permission to raise dividends by

150 per cent to facilitate a £150m Eurobond loan. This was seen as a further easing of restraint, but the shares, caught in the market trend, slipped 17p to 124p.

In reporting figures the high-flying European Ferries, up 81 to 97p, disclosed that it had held much-rumoured but abortive takeover talks with Furness Withy and held 5 per cent of the shares.

Reckitt & Colman, one of the market's leading industrial shares, slumped 48p to 460p after profits fell below market expectations. Though losses were cut, the much-troubled Burnish Oil continued to be plagued by its shipping side and the shares slipped 8p to 65p.

David Mott

Unit trust performance

Medium and Income funds (progress this year and the past three years). Unitholder index 208.9; rise from January 1, 1977: +31.9%. Average change offer to bid, net income included, over past 12 months: +28.3%; over past three years: +9.0%.

MEDIUM			
A	B	Trades Union	29.9
Framlington Capital	79.6	231.7	124.2
Anderson Unit Trust	75.4	—	122.9
Piccadilly Private	72.7	66.7	85.7
Piccadilly Technology	67.9	113.5	109.2
Norwich Union	61.6	—	107.5
Friends Provident	56.7	197.8	103.1
Pelican	55.1	121.8	85.8
Piccadilly Inc/Grow	54.9	47.6	73.3
Henderson Inc Assets	54.5	111.7	67.3
Discretionary F	52.1	146.6	69.1
Garmore British	52.0	110.9	69.4
MLA Unit Trust	51.7	—	69.5
Schroder General	51.3	188.2	67.2
Barclay Trust Investment	50.0	111.8	67.2
M & G Midland	48.6	156.9	67.2
Proffitt	48.0	137.2	67.2
Tyndall Canyone	47.9	136.9	67.2
Lloyd's Life Accum	47.8	128.3	67.2
London Wall Cap Gth	47.4	126.1	67.2
Jarvis Sec Leads	46.8	53.4	67.2
Oceanic Growth	46.6	75.3	67.2
Unknown	46.4	124.4	67.2
Guardian	45.9	142.7	67.2
Abbey General	45.8	125.5	67.2
Allied Electrical & Ind	45.8	119.5	67.2
Rowan Securities	45.6	147.0	67.2
Britannia Domestic	45.0	95.7	67.2
Tyndall Capital	44.3	99.8	67.2
British Life Balanced	44.2	162.2	67.2
Pratt House M	43.9	117.8	67.2
Unicorn Trust	43.8	129.4	67.2
M & G Trustee	43.7	139.5	67.2
TSB General	43.7	141.6	67.2
Target Professional	43.3	108.0	67.2
Hill Samuel Capital	42.7	148.5	67.2
Mercury General	42.5	—	67.2
Brown Shipley	42.5	112.4	67.2
Alfred Capital	42.0	124.1	67.2
Target Thistle	42.0	125.3	67.2
Argent	42.0	88.6	67.2
Allied Ham British	41.9	112.1	67.2
G and A	41.7	117.8	67.2
S & P UK Equity	41.7	118.0	67.2
Alben Trust	41.6	106.9	67.2
Alfred First	41.1	103.6	67.2
Barrington	40.9	—	67.2
Canlife General	40.7	125.2	67.2
Stewart British	40.2	91.5	67.2
Crescent Reserves	40.0	111.7	67.2
Arbuthnot Giants	39.9	98.0	67.2
Unicorn General	39.9	125.4	67.2
Scottish Equitable	39.7	—	67.2
Equity & Law	39.5	149.6	67.2
Equitas	39.1	116.4	67.2
Lloyds Bank First	38.4	139.5	67.2
Tyndall Inc Earnings	38.3	—	67.2
Alfred Growth & Inc	38.1	121.0	67.2
S & P Scotshares	38.1	108.9	67.2
Hambro Fund	37.9	119.5	67.2
Mutual Security Plus	37.4	117.0	67.2
Nolstar	37.4	117.2	67.2
British Life	37.4	117.2	67.2
Hill Samuel British	37.2	145.8	67.2
M & G General	37.2	104.4	67.2
Hill Samuel Security	36.9	143.4	67.2
Lloyds Bank Fourth	36.1	—	67.2
Kleinwort Benson F	35.1	97.6	67.2
Pearl Unit Trust	35.1	115.2	67.2
Wickmore	35.0	101.2	67.2
NPI Gro Accumul F	34.7	118.3	67.2
Quadrant F	35.8	96.0	67.2
Coleman	35.3	110.6	67.2
Barbican	35.3	103.1	67.2
Legal & General	32.9	91.8	67.2
M & G Sec General	32.9	92.7	67.2
Target Equity	32.5	86.7	67.2
Ulster Bank Growth	32.1	104.4	67.2
Weller Growth F	32.1	97.3	67.2
Worldwide	31.7	—	67.2
Glen Fund	30.4	60.4	67.2
Minster	30.0	58.0	67.2

Jescol Secr Leads	46.8	53.4		
Oceanic Growth	46.6	75.3		
Unicorn '500	46.4	131.4		
Guardrail	45.9	142.7		
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